Dear Sir—

Dr Physick observed to day, that it would be well to suspend a little while the operation on my ear. You need not then take the trouble of calling at the time agreed on with the other Physicians—

Very truly
Yours
Wm E Channing

Monday eve'g

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #1

n.d.
C

Dear Sir—

Will you lend me the "Pilot" if no one is reading it.

Yr very truly
W E Channing

Mondays—

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #2

for the benefits he receives -
In his social relations, his more
private & domestick, his neighbour-
hood, in ~~every note~~ his whole en-
lerd - wherever, he looks round
for opportunities of affect & good-
will -
He is honest in his prayer. - he
never prays to be for himself
alone - but remembers others -
in praying for himself, he prays
chiefly for improvements in love,
& for means of usefulness -
He is honest in his prayers -
~~He prays not for himself~~
only -
He never feels himself a descendent
being, or dreams of a private world,
or imagines that he can be happy
alone, but has a perfect consciousness
of the ties which bind him to others,
& of a common interest, of close relat

n.d.
C

Dear Sir—

I have just heard from Dr Kirkland (to whom I proposed an exchange) that he had agreed to exchange with you, but that he is obliged to give up the exchange on account of the dangerous illness of his brother - It would be very agreeable to me to take his place in the exchange. If it will be agreeable to you to preach for me on the morning, I will thank you to send word by the bearer—

Yrs Respectfully
W E Channing—

When Xt occurs to my mind, a multitude of delightful
questions arise & draw attention & thus our
love is given to Xt- here the agency of Deity -

Is it not necessary to bring the mind much to
divine objects & to view them abstract of detestable ones
& recten in order to love -

Trust in God is belief in his general love
exercised toward us particularly - It is confidence
that he will treat us as a God of perfect love
It views him in relation to us, but it is founded on
his general character, righteousness & goodness

The ideas of mercy, goodness, delight in happiness,
condescension, mercy, mingled with all we see &
enjoy, tend to give us the very spirit & God
becomes more & more amiable -

In prayer designed to move divine compassion -
We be at Gods mercy - his pity our only hope -
this free compassion - God chooses that we shd feel
this - that we shd lean on this - apply to this - our
characters shd suggest this - & those views which suggest
it most important - God chooses our dependence to
be seen - that we see what he can do - that we see scope
for mercy - [illegible] - make this the ole groun
of [illegible] - think of this in connexion with all happiness -
In consequence of order, harmony & beauty in the
divine works, an expectation of enjoyment more
than being we see is excited
It is a consequence of so many things being nec-
essary to our good, that our views extend -

n.d. c

Thursday eveg

Dear Sir -

I have read your circular with pleasure - page you say "in favour of the more destructive cus- tom of war." Should it not be "in regard to" or "in respect to". I have taken the liberty of including in brackets the names of the Committee, Messrs B & Sr. You know that I respect these gen- tlemen - but as they do not occupy conspicuous place in society, I am strongly of opinion, that the insertion of their names will not increase attention to the Queries, & that it will be best that you alone should appear - I would omit the word "nay" near the top of the 3d page, & the word "incredible or" near the bottom. The word "connexion" at the top of the 4th page is, I fear, improperly used. "Friends" would be better - With respect to the Queries, I would separ- ate remarks from that about sources of in-

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #4

formation from that about the best methods of mitigating war— I do not see the use of the additional question which you propose. I think it included in the others. It is not necessary to hand the circular to the committee until printed. Mr Lewis Jackson is joined to them, & will be an efficient member. When you have determined on the circular, & shown it to Mr Homer (which however does not seem to me necessary unless it can be done immediately) I will hand it to one of the committee who will superintend its publication — & send you a strange letter from Connecticut which will amuse you — also a printed circular of the Peace Society of Ohio which seems unfit for publication here — also Mr Walcutt's letter — I have sent a communication to the C & D which fills nearly 6 pages — I still observe vacant spaces in the Disciple. Will it not be well to supply the printer with short sentences to fill up such spaces which may occur hereafter —

I received your letter & forwarded to Mr Bradford the one enclosed for him —

A student from Andover called on me to request that a series of our peace publications might be sent to a society formed at their Institution for the purpose of making enquiries about mission. Dr Woods sent to him. to me, & also requested permission to publish my Sermon on war as a tract, making some omissions, to which I cheerfully consented. Their designs seem favourable to our object — & I wish that we may comply with their request —

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #4

Dear Brother — Mr Chan-

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #4

n.d. C

Dear Sir.

I wish to send to Boston in the Rice plant a small package, & will thank you to send for it at Mr Boyle's & to order it on board.

Very truly
Yr friend & servt
Wm E Channing

Wednesday morng -

High, I'll venture to be seen, known, & undertood to be one ano-

Our consent to this understood -

Moment nothing - what the amount of the endowments which it con-tains -

We are to feel ourselves dedicated to this glorious virtue -

Our love, pure unselfish, where -

Formality &c -

Spiritly - this one character

Danger of vague specu-lation -

I am bound to this height of virtue -

The contest great & the idea, & of the

What to realize it -

to be what we admire -

This felt to be an outcome end -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #5

[W. E. Channing]
n.d.

New York. May.

Your letter, my dear Madam, reached me just before leaving home, & I answer it from this place, because the communication between New York & England is much more speedy than between Boston & the latter. I can understand the great affliction which you are called to endure, though I have not felt it. God has seen fit to spare to me my earthly friend; but her admonitions continued, & I feel what a change must be made in my life & my home, when that beloved & revered form shall disappear from the earth. A mother's love is in some views more touching than any other. It began with our very being, & never forsakes us. It has more of the immutableness of the divine goodness than any other human sentiment. It bears a mystic character. It watches over us by night & on our sorrowful days. Of the light

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #6

of my mother, I sometimes say to myself, here is a love, which has followed me all my days; one constant heart, which has never changed towards me; which no waywardness or ingratitude has for a moment alienated; in which, the affection, kindled at my birth, burns still, undimmed, undying; to which, my humour & faultiness are dear as her own; which no earthly power has separated from me. When I think of this strength & sacredness & disinterestedness of parental love, it seems hardly I think to be extinguished by removal into another world. Do you not feel, as I, in your future life, while being, you must continue to feel yourself bound by a peculiar tie to your children? Does it not seem to you, as if parting with this strong sentiment, which has penetrated your whole nature, would destroy your identity? Is there not a consciousness in a pure parental love, that it is worthy of being perpetuated? Is it not too like that love which God bears his offspring, too bright a portion of his image in the human soul, to be blotted out? Our parents then, though taken from us, are not dead to their children. I am surprised to hear the words romantic or visionary applied to such anticipations; as if any thing were so real & durable as the soul & its affections. Those outward things, which the multitude call realities, are the shadows. The inward life is alone eternal. To expect this to continue, to believe that death cannot touch what is great & lovely in the mind, surely this is not sentimental, unless religion be a delusion & our noblest sentiments false. I send, first an interesting subject for you gratifying to me to learn, that my letter was able to give even a momentary pleasure to your mother in her last sickness.

The reason with which I write to you, I sometimes fear, may surprise you. But I cannot help feel as a stranger to those whose genius & virtues I admire; a confident that I shall not be misunderstood, I take the liberty to tell you, not of the pleasure which I hear from so many lips of your works, but of the fault which is sometimes found with them. I fear

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #6

some complexion of tone underlies a tone of sadness pervading your poems. The other evening, I read to a circle your noble lines on the Sandors, & gave them, as far as I could, the expression of elevation & aspiration which belongs to them. A lady told me, she was painfully agitated, for "added she, "other people, whom I have heard read Mrs Hemans' poetry, think that it is melancholy, & fall into a monotone." You will wonder that the heavenly kindling strains which resound in your writings, have not prevented this misapprehension; but will you allow me to say, that it is not wholly without foundation. I have sometimes felt in reading your works, that your sense of the evils of life is too keen, & colours too much your views. I love to be touched, moved, but not depressed. No genius, no power of execution can recompense me for what I suffer from the tones of sorrow coming to me from a highly gifted mind, in whom the deepest impressions are those of suffering, & over whose brightest inventions there is a hue of sadness. My confidence

in the great purposes of God towards us, my
persuasion that all suffering is meant to puri-
fy & exalt the soul, to be the occasion of more
strength & victory, leads me to feel that a
deep peace, & a cheerful resolution, in all changes, are due
alike to ourselves & our Creator. I may err.
Perhaps a life of prosperity has made me in-
capable of understanding the sorrow-stricken
spirit. But I love to believe in the mighty pow-
er of the soul over suffering, when it is instructed in
the great purposes of its being, & lifted to God in fil-
ial hope. It seems to me one of the most
blessed influences of Christian faith, that by abolish-
ing, annihilating death, by making the fu-
ture & invisible, present & real, & by giving us
an immortal being for thought & affection
to expatiate in, it reconciles intense sensibility
with peace & energy. I began life with possess-
ing sensibility too exclusively. Peace & energy now
seem to me more & more essential to its beau-
ty & moral worth. Do not imagine that I am

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #6

despaired to apply to you all these remarks. I catch from your writings another spirit than sadness. I owe to them high inspirations. But my "ghostly counsels" seem to me to have some application to your case, - & if not, you must set them down under that comprehensive head of well-meant but ill-timed efforts to do good, which includes so large a portion of human beneficence -

Your extract from Wordsworth I had seen before. I grieve at the privation of sight, which you think him doomed to suffer. If you wrote to him, will you say, that I remember with much delight my short interviews with him. You gratified me much by the respectful & affectionate language in which you spoke of him. I was told, when in England, after I had seen him, that he had injured by the nature of the great, that he had forgotten the nobility of genius & lofty sentiments in presence of the artificial aristocracy of this world, that he had sunk into a partizan, that even that low passion, the love of money, had settled upon him... I could not & would not believe that a man, to whom my mind & heart owed so large a debt, was so fallen - & yet I could not escape an uneasy suspicion, that prosperity had found some weak part in him. Your letter did much to give me back the sentiment with which I used to contemplate him -

You must not fear being often troubled with such long letters. You owe the length of this to accident. I am shut up by a cold north-east storm, at a distance from my books & ordinary occupations, & have reflected on you & on my friends - What at other times I am too busy to reflect on my friends - It will always afford me great pleasure to hear from you, though I beg you to feel yourself under no obligation to reply, until your engagements will make it perfectly convenient -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #6

Dec 22-1845. Compare this letter with what is copied from the one which was actually sent, & add to the extracts - W. F. C -

[Rev. William Ellery Channing]

W.E. Channing

n.d.

My dear mother.

I am now at Uncle Wms, where the kindest enquiries are made after you, & very earnest desires to see you are expressed.

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #7

You look with envy on those above you-
rich - the proud in talent - & the safe
who seem invincible in great crime

improvement the end - to enlarge our
powers & to grow better -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #7

[William Ellery Channing]
n.d. c

My dear wife -

We intended to return
by Mary Rivers today - but I
presume, the wind will prevent - We
shall come on Wednesday or Thursday
or Wednesday forenoon - Thursday be-
ing - I am well -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #8

Did not. G reveal himself in various ways, works &c
Does not one require the knowledge of ants - Must they not be seen in connexion

---

G one glean bees secrets of ab-
To seek one in creatures state? or forte - Laugh -

My dear Walter – I enclose some letters to persons who may enter on to Mr Dana's place – I trust he will have strength to make a fair trial – I think the object a great one for the summer, & more, would be invaluable to him – It would give him a new spring – I hope your excursion to the White Mountains gratified you – Give my love to Barbara & Mary – We are now alone, Mary & Sarah I having gone to Newton – I sent your news of Sarah I to Dr Francis, who agrees with you in some points, & hopes to do her good –

Affectly

W E Channing –

Sarah will soon be in Boston, & may want the judgment of her friends in some matters of taste – She is unwilling to ask of you, thinking you too

busy, or not very prompt in your service. I am
[illegible] your warmest offer to aid her[illegible]

26
13
39=

.25
3 25
5.
2.
30 .50

" 2
3 "
3 " 2
5 "
4 "
10
5
30

Wm Ellery Channing

Dr Mr Channing

Mrs Eggs at pleasure &

I was [illegible] observed by the Papers 2 days ago
of your safe arrival, and this morning received yours
letter of the 27th confirming the [illegible] and that your health
had much improved, and Ruth Willis — which with
the more favourable information of Sister Gibbes health
and that she had set out for N Island — ~~was taken~~
~~been a boarder~~ Mrs. Channing has had a slight
return of ~~dyspepsia~~ her old complaints — Mary Anna was
not well when I came here, but is much better tho very
thin — Anna has grown some & quite well —
Lutkin me has improved her health here &
her boy remarkable healthy & promising
They set with the Captain Barclay & Lucia
to be affectionately remembered to you —
and Ruth — Lutkin & Sarah —

I had a letter from Mr Robert Rogers
the 26th informing that he had rec'd a letter from you dated
Paris 21st May. requesting him to remit to Mr Samuel Willis
of Paris 9500 francs, and desiring him to communicate
your wishes to me — and ~~[illegible]~~ to me if I would make
Provision without delay to enable him to make the
remittance & pay the charges on six packages which had arrived
it would be particularly obliging you — Because
having no funds at present in Boston to draw on
I have desired a remittance, at the disposal of John
Parker Esqr — whom I have requested when rec'd

to pay the amount you may require — As it will be proper you should give a line requesting Mrs Parker to pay the amount of the amo ~~draft~~ you may ~~in addition~~ want — not intending ~~to draw~~ remittance I have made of $2500 — ~~and we have written to the sea~~ which sum will cover the balance to Rubi Credit ~~for~~ abroad $1000 — Should you have other money to remit or pay — if you will let me know I can ~~and will~~ soon after ~~receive~~ advice thereof ~~pay~~ make Drafts, when ~~required~~ ~~by the proceeds~~ such further proceeds may be required out of ~~You may draw out of the~~

Yours sincerely —

William Ellery Channing Esq
Worthington Creek,
Dutchess Co —
New York —

11
11

C

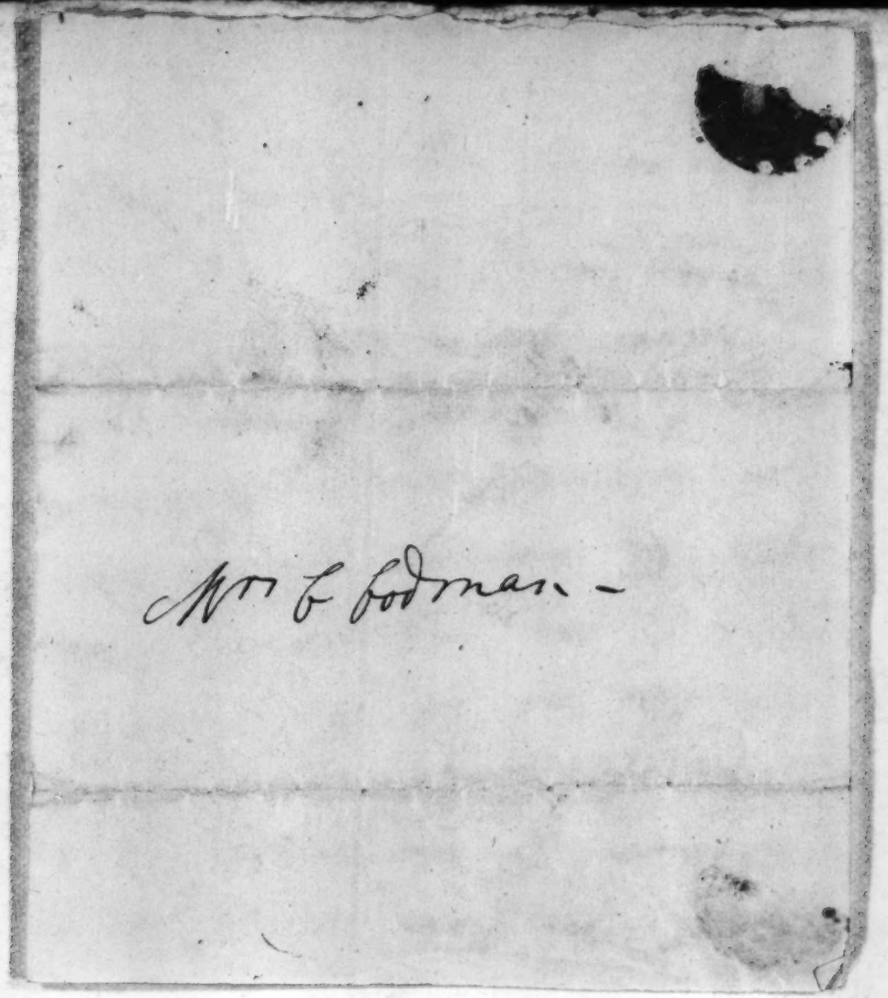
Dear Mrs C—

I was from home all yesterday, so that I could not attend to your note. You have consulted me on a point of etiquette on which I have not enough of a sense of propriety to decide. For my own part I always choose to err on the side of simplicity, & once or twice have written plain "Sir," when I have not known the usual mode of expressing re-

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #11

spect. In these cases I have endeavord to make up by a string of "humble servts" &c at the end for the quakerism of my beginning. I fear after this answer you will not consult me on a similar point a second time - but I have given you my best advice —

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #11



William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #11

My dear friend.

Should the weather tempt you to ride to day, I will go with you to Chelsea & visit our friends there, as you proposed. I wish to bring our woman Rebecca who resides there & is much wanted by my wife - You will not go unless you hope to be benefited by riding, for at any rate

Mr Fathers -

House Place -

I can take my chance -
Should we go ten o clock, ~~will~~
or ½ past 10 will not be
too early, & I will be
ready when you call -

Ty very affectly
W E Channing

Monday morng -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #12

Dear Mr Codman.

My heart is in great sorrow. I fear Providence is about to remove one of my best friends, & one of the best men in our society. Mr Dawes is very low. I have thought that if you could make it convenient I should like to meet you at Mr Sargent's this evening & unite with our pious friends in prayer for him. If you can

go, let Same call for
me between 6 & 7.

Yrs With great affect
W E Channing

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #13

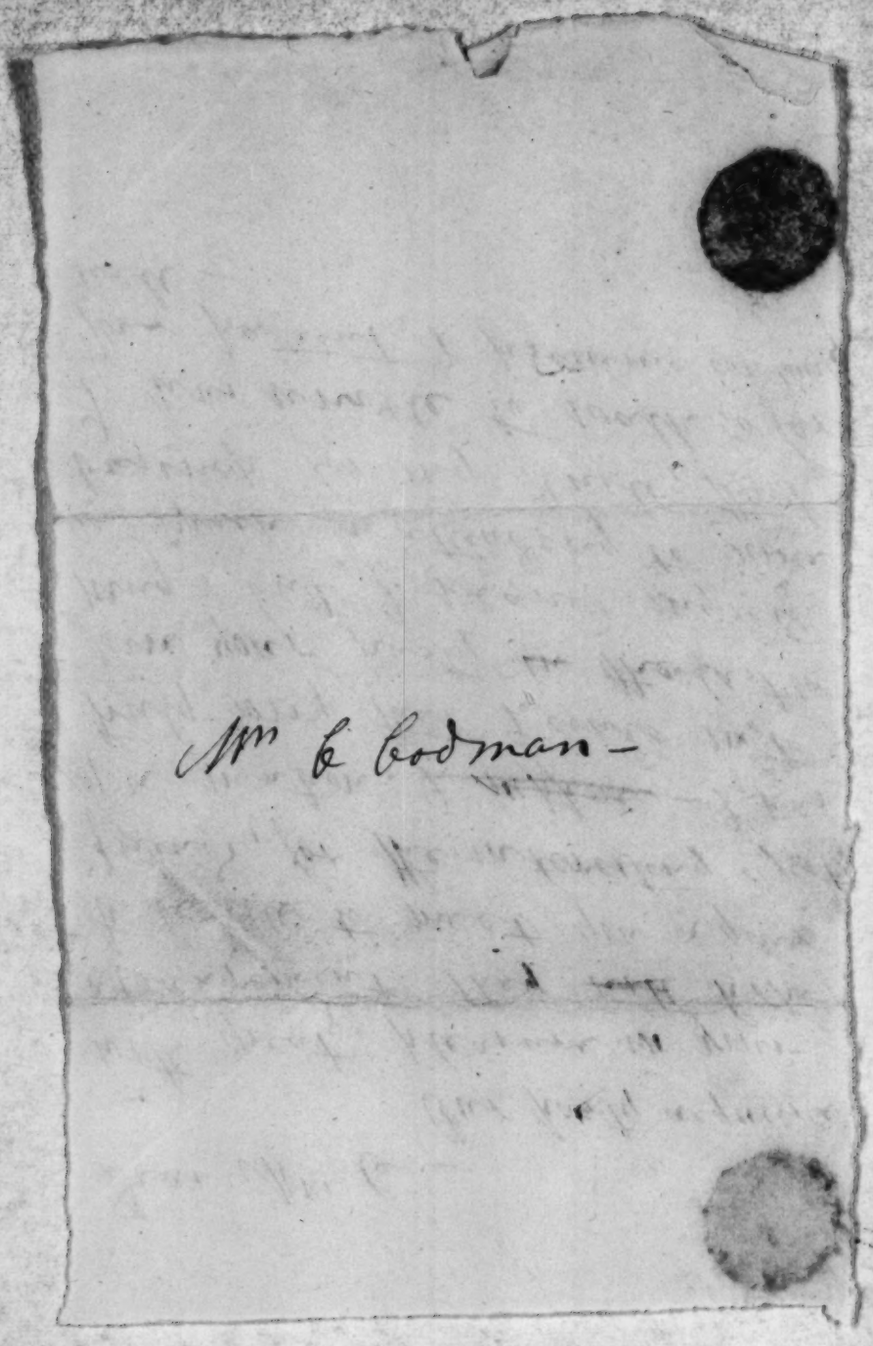
Prayer meeting -

Mrs C Codman

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #13

Dear Mr C –

Our party acquiesce with great pleasure in your arrangement. They ~~will~~ hope to be able to meet you & your friends, for the interesting object you mention. ~~I suppose~~ – I was truly sorry that I could not join your party ~~in~~ the last evening; but I weaned myself so much in attendeng to some business for my Uncle, that I was unable to walk so far. Your patient I presume continues well –



William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #14

C

My dear friend—

Will you let your carriage call here at one, if the weather should be ~~not~~ pleasant, I should like to ride; I should the day continue fair, I may wish to go again ~~about~~ in the afternoon — I beg you not to let this en—

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #15

terfere with any of yours
plans - very truly
Yr
Wm E Channing

Thursday -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #15

My dear friend -

I see I admire the
nature of your application - but no-
thing would tempt me to undertake
the task, of which you speak. I am
less of an oracle than you think - a
such things should be self-prompted-
I thank you for your kindness-
Do not send the pudding, for we sel-
dom indulge in such luxuries -

Will you do me a favour. I want
to see the boy, Esther, who loved me
you. My friend Fuchsman is quite
desirous I should try him. His par-

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #16

ents live on a court leading from
Washington St, South end, joining Henry
K Hancock's, I believe an upholsterer
or Cabinet-maker- the number
perhaps 669 or near- Will you let
your man go there & desire the boy
to come to me this morning or to-
day. ~~My mama said not~~ Mrs C wishes to see him. She
also begs me to thank you- We are
in so cheerfull, when we say, ~~that~~
we want you to make our house
one of your homes-

Very affectly
Wm. E Channing-

Wednesday-

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #16

Mrs C Codman -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #16

Sat'y - morng

Dear Mrs C -

The morning is so pleasant that I incline to go to Newton & see Mrs Blachler. & I wish you, if you can without any sacrifice, to go with me - Friends, I think, will be pleasant - We will go, as early as mine, that we may return be-

Mrs Goodwin.
at Mr Dexter's.

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #17

Since the east wind has
become strong. Perhaps the
~~South~~ wind will keep
to the south or west all ~~the~~ day.
I go on my chance, &
will call for you, if you
consent - Do not, my kind
friend, expose yourself
at all for my sake -

Very affectly
W E C -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #17

I thank you for the warm
expression of your kindness —

We do not attend Mr Ware,
& have no need of the Arche-
ology —

I have seen the sermon on Sunny
things, & read it with great
pleasure — Dr B's I have
not yet read —

We shall not probably go to
Mrs Sedley's —

I return the Recorder not
knowing but you may
want it very soon

Yrs

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #18

c

Dear Mrs C—

I agree with you as to your general proposition respecting our friend — but I wish to suggest to you some modification of it which may be more beneficial to him & to society — When can I see you alone. I must write soon. I should be pleased to join with you in seeking for our friend a guidance & blessing more sure & effectual than ours — How is your patient to-day? You must not hesitate to propose to me any thing by which I can aid you in restoring her

Yrs &c—

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #19

Mr. C Codman—

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #19

C

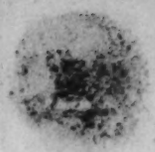
Dear Mr C-

I will visit your [illegible] had I not been writing to you, I shd have said I will visit them with pleasure. I hope but I feel that I must not promise. I look back to our last conversation with pleasure. I hope that I shall never have reason to repent of it. I feel as if you could be useful to me — I want human as well as divine aid in stemming the torrent. Your friendship can more than repay all the benefits which you think you have received from me. Yrs affectionately W E C-

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 20

Mrs C Bodman -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 20



Loan of Sermon —

Mr E Channing

c

My dear friend —

Let me first thank you for the kind & encouraging manner in which you have spoken of what satisfied me very little. I regret that I cannot comply with your request, but I had not time to copy the discourse, & usually lose pieces of

of paper on which I had thrown my scattered thoughts, & which would be a chaos to any one but myself. You will not on this case think me unreasonable in refusing you, a thing which I always do with pain — Yr sincerely —

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 21

Friday

Dear Mrs C-

You have had much to make you grateful since I saw you. I wish I felt more of the spirit of Paul's injunction, Rejoice with them that rejoice. I could then with a better grace offer you my congratulations on the return of your friends - I have not yet been to see Mrs Ann Lowell. I knew that She would be thronged with friends who had a better claim to her attention than myself - To day I shall call - My mother has been rather unwell these two days past. We want her to take a ride to-day. It has occurred to me that the return of your friends might render it inconvenient for you to share Pleasant

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 22

or the carriage. If this be the case you know that we expect to be denied - But if you can send the carriage what inconvenience then morning, you will oblige us - Wrote by Robert - mention the hour, if Pleasant can come -

Yrs Sincerely W E C -

- Wm E Channing -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 22

Dear Mr C-

I shall have a carriage to carry me to the funeral this afternoon, but if I depend on it to bring me back, I must wait till the funeral is over — If you shall have no use for your carriage, I should like to have Pleasant drive to Mr Adams' a little while after I go, that I may return as soon as the prayer is finished. But this must depend on your plans. Do not set aside any arrangement for the sake of giving me this trifling accommodation. I am better & only want a mild air & sky to strengthen me - These means are so much above human power that I ought to feel my dependence. I say "that I only want the sky & the air to be

mild," as if there were little things. But what created arm can supply there wants. Who can change the winds, & moderate their force, who disperse the clouds & give warmth & elasticity to the atmosphere? & can I speak as if there were slight favors — How little do we feel our common blessings —

Wm E. Channing

c

Dear Mrs C-

I carried the journal to Mrs S yesterday. I was so much delighted with it, that I was impatient to communicate to her the pleasure & improvement which I thought she would derive from it. I confess to you, this woman has humbled me more by her pious affectionate zeal, than almost any of my brethren. If she is what that volume discovers her to be, I hardly know the person whose condemn I should more envy. But I know too well, that our writings, are not always a sure test of character. I am confident she is a good woman, but she may still fall very short

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #24

of the character I have imagined. I little thought of writing a note when I took up my pen. But I feel too proud of this note, not to send it. It may prove that I love what I cannot attain. I feel that this is my only claim.

Do you wish me to take back the Journal immediately?

Wednesday —

My dear friend —

I am considerably ~~quite~~ relieved from my cold — but the attack has been such that I am admonished to take care of myself, & shall not be abroad to morrow except to breathe the air in the pleasantest hours of the day, — I doubt whether your plan would suit Dr W, & in his state of health, there is too much responsibility in making any plans for his movements. Our accident our stopping here already made him sick. — [illegible] such people should be left to themselves. — I am glad you have seen Mr S's paper —

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #25

Phelet, I hope you will make it known - I know not who is to preach to-morrow evening. - I am wholly released from the Thursday lecture & have no turn to take - The best way to send the book to Dr W. is to send it to Mrs Lee's, who has constant intercourse with Brighton - you are a little mistaken, as to the people's taking the refusal of the sermon so much at heart - I have seen those who were most anxious for its publication, & they are quite satisfied -

Yr affectly
W E C -

Will you have your meal sent immediately from N Island? The water-mills, which ground last, were stopped when my wife came away, & she thought it best to wait till they go again - Part of you are in haste, you can have some from the windmills immedy -

Mr C Goodman

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 25

Dear Mrs C-

I cannot join your
party, for my wife is wanting al-
most impatiently for the time, when
we shall think it safe for her to go
to the Island - & in a day or two
we hope this will be possible - &
shall still anticipate the pleas-
ure above & must now resign-
We continue to do well. My strength
increases - & I am encouraged
to persevere in the use of the
means which I am now em-
ploying. I sometimes doubt, whether
I should return any longer from
my labours. But the middle of
summer is not the time to
return to them. I send you

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #26

a jug of Burton on Mrs Black's
order. & will send another with
some of Lard's ale - Do re-
member me affectly to your
friends at Quincy -

Yr sincere friend
W E Channing

Tuesday -

Mrs C Codman -

Quincy -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #26

C

Monday morng—

My dear friend—

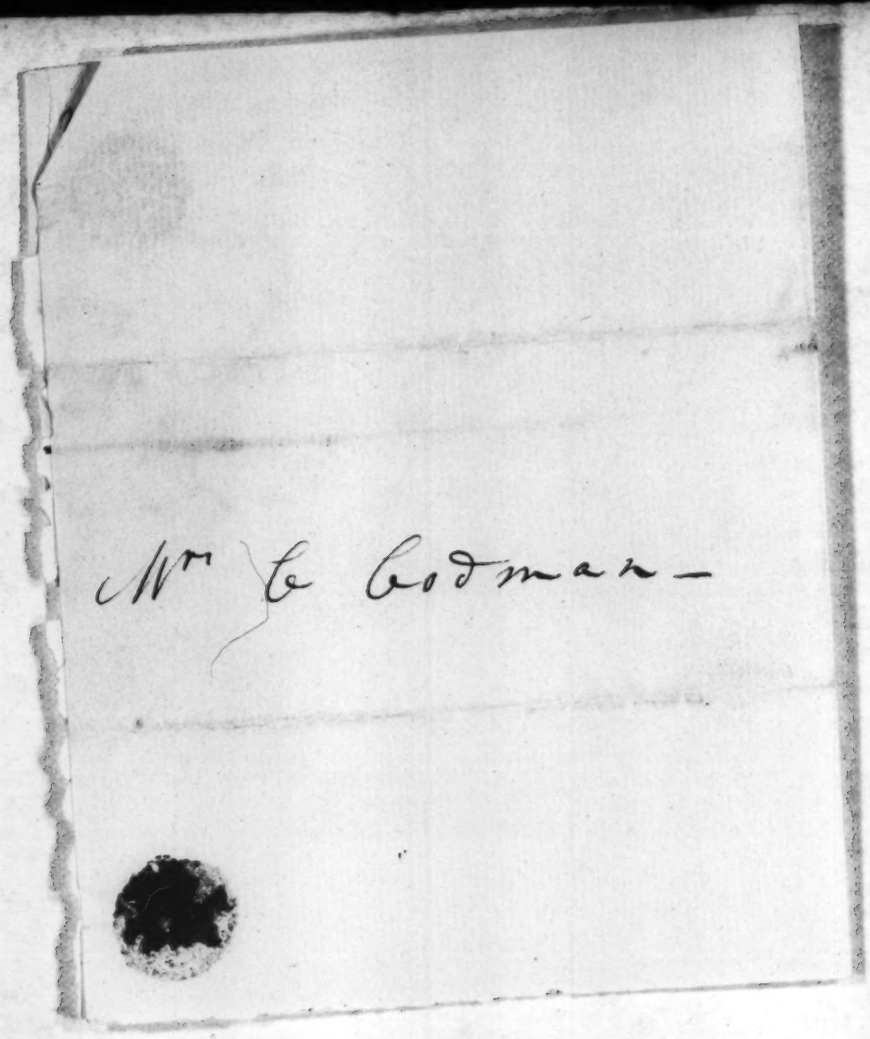
I feel as if I should cease making engagements, for I have to recall them perpetually. Yesterday on my return home, I was seized with a universal cold & shivering, which seemed to be the precursor of serious sickness. By various application I obtained relief in the night & excepting debility am almost well. But I am shut up & am very doubtful whether I shall try the

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 27

might aver the week. I
feel no small reluctance
at troubling my friend with
my complaints & interfering
with their arrangements. ~~I~~
~~I shrink from that task~~ But this
is a part of my discipline.

Very affect^y Yr. EC

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #27



William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 27

Boston - May -

My dear friend -

You will understand me, when I tell that I was very glad that your sister returned without you. I was indeed rejoiced to hear that your journey & the change of air, & the waters of Stafford had so much recruited you. I cannot but hope that perseverance in the use of these agreeable ~~rede~~ remedies will raise you up again. I do not expect ever to see you very strong; but I want you to be as strong as I am. I know that I ought not to dictate to providence; but it is a thought on which I cannot dwell, that I may be left to spend many years on earth without your friendship counsels, encouragements & prayers. I am selfish enough to wish you to take care of yourself for my sake. I know that I have many friends, perhaps few are more favored than I am. But still I cannot spare you. How much of the happiness, & I may add of the useful-

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 28

rest of my life, do I owe to your tender unremitting kindness. How often have I been kept from fainting by your cheering voice. Do not say, that I am inclined to exaggerate your offices of friendship. I cannot express what I feel. Your I have often felt that your partiality to me is unmerited, but I am not just enough to wish it diminished. It has become one of my highest earthly blessings. It is one of the few blessings to which I look forward with confidence. I feel that many other friends may fail, but I feel a thorough assurance that, your no changes can ever sever us from each other. Is it not religion, that indissoluble bond, which unites us? I must now give you the news. Perhaps you have heard that my mother has been quite sick since you left us. I have never seen her so much reduced. For a day or two my fears were considerably not a little excited. I felt more sensibly than I ever did before, that this nearest, best of earthly friends was mortal. Thanks to a merciful providence, she is regaining her strength. It is a pleasing consideration, that her children have been able to repay a little of her kindness; but how little can parental kindness be requited. Our other friends are well. I sometimes rent your house; every thing seems to be in order. Our religious state is as it was. I feel more & more, that I am doing little good; but I blame myself as much as others. Since you have been absent, I have felt more debilitated than usual. I have not been capable of much mental exertion. How much do I need these rebukes to keep me humble. You know the sin, which most easily besets me. I have reason to be grateful for the various methods in which God is teaching me my dependence & imbecility. What else shall I say? You know that you hold a large place in all our hearts. My very dear friend, may God preserve & bless you. It is my rejoicing that you are in his arms. I hope that you will keep your mind free from all anxiety about your family, & alive to every thing which is interesting & pleasing around you.

Ever sincere friend
W. E. C.

May I not hope a letter

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 28

P.S. I have spoken to Dr Danforth about your complaints. He thinks your practice of taking so much medicine pernicious

Boston May-
Sense of intellectual exercise in early manhood

Miss Catherine Coleman
To the care of Dr Todd
Northford-
Connecticut

10 11 2

My dear friend-

Do let this affair teach you how to estimate the accounts you receive. If I ever preached with a view to improve future happiness & suffering, I did it in the discourse you refer to - & your own feelings were such, as I believe & trust, were excited in the mass who heard me. As to satisfying those who hear by feelings, I have no time for it. Indeed to make such childish objections matter of serious remark, would I fear injure me in the opinion of all sensible people - We must

Wm E Channing

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 29

learn to smile at some misrepresentations — My Uncle Walter is more comfortable — I understood Mr Gannett that he had made provision for the Thursday evening lecture. — I expect to preach to-morrow "tomorrow" — I thank you for the book — I have just showed your letter to my wife. She tells me, that she could not have thought it possible for such misrepresentations to be made of my sermon —

Very affectly
W E Channing

Sat 9.

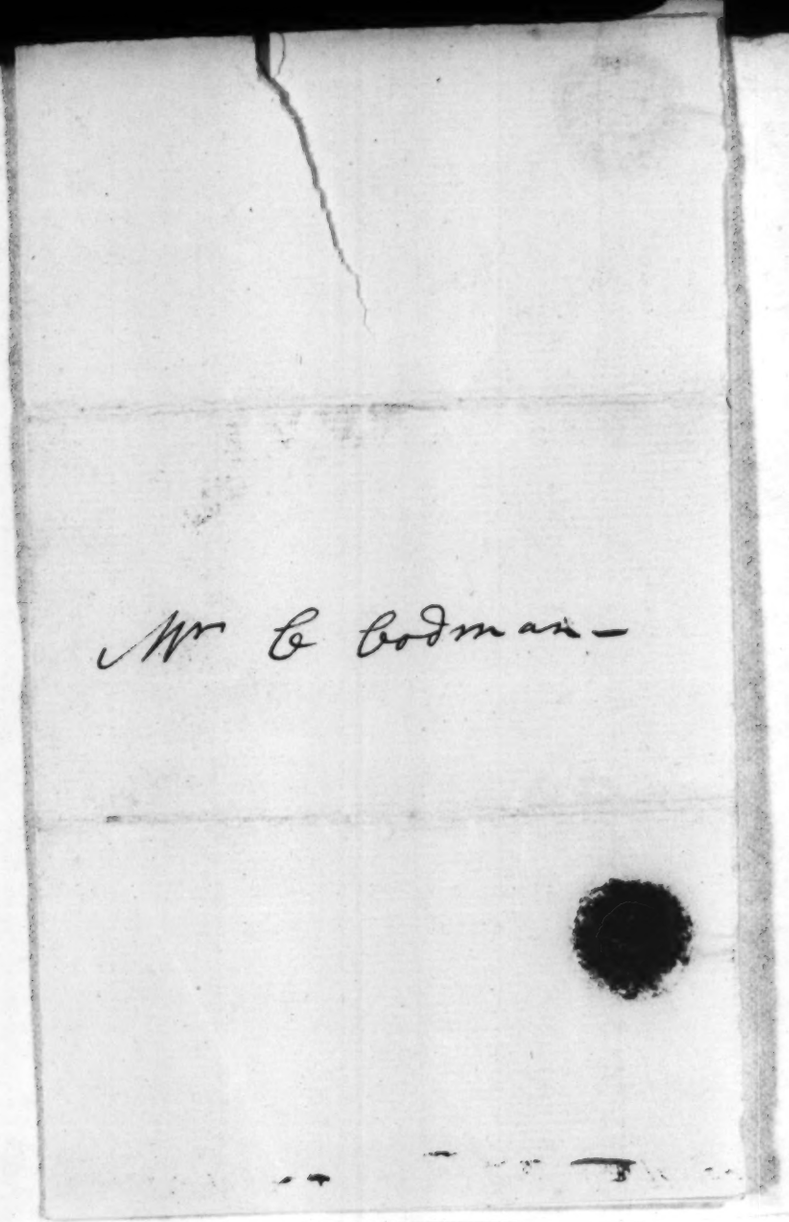
William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 29

My dear friend -

Mrs Cobbett is dead. I have seen Deacon M'Shane, who will attend to the funeral charges; but I presume Mrs Fenno will need some aid, & I shall be very happy to share with you in any exigencies which you may think proper on the occasion.

Yours - Le — WEG -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #30



William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 30

My dear friend -

I have been very much surprised there three days by the weather. If I can be with you safely, I will with much pleasure

Very truly W E C

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #31

1808 - or 1815? 18 c

Saturday. Evening -

Dear Mrs Fodman. April 7.

I expect to preach to-morrow morning at South-end, & as I am not very strong I wish you would let Sam carry me there a little before 10 o'clock - Do not withhose from this request that I am very sick. To remove all your fears, I assure you, that this day at 11 o clock I complied with certain rules, which a most excellent kind Physician lately wrote for me, & which I am assured will increase my strength. I wish you could know the confidence, grat-

tude & respect with which this physician has inspired me; Unlike many of the faculty, I hope my friend has a real regard to the Gospel of Jesus. Should I not rejoice in such an acquisition? This is my birthday. I have been looking back on the blessings which have filled up my existence. The last year I fend has been crowned with mercies, & in acknowledging the unmerited goodness of God, I cannot but thank him, that he has put it into the heart of this kind friend & physician to take such an interest in my welfare, & to express towards me so much tenderness & affection. All my life long, God has been raising up to me benefactors. I never experienced the want of a friendly hand to support me. Oh that with his blessings he would give a heart to be grateful for them. Give me your prayers that the next year of my life may be more useful than the last, that every day may bring me nearer to heaven, that I may feel more of the power of religion that God would condescend to use even me as an instrument in advancing his cause in the world. Yrs With great respect & affection W E Channing

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #32

His many friends -
Sept.
1808 or 1815

Mrs Catherine Codman -

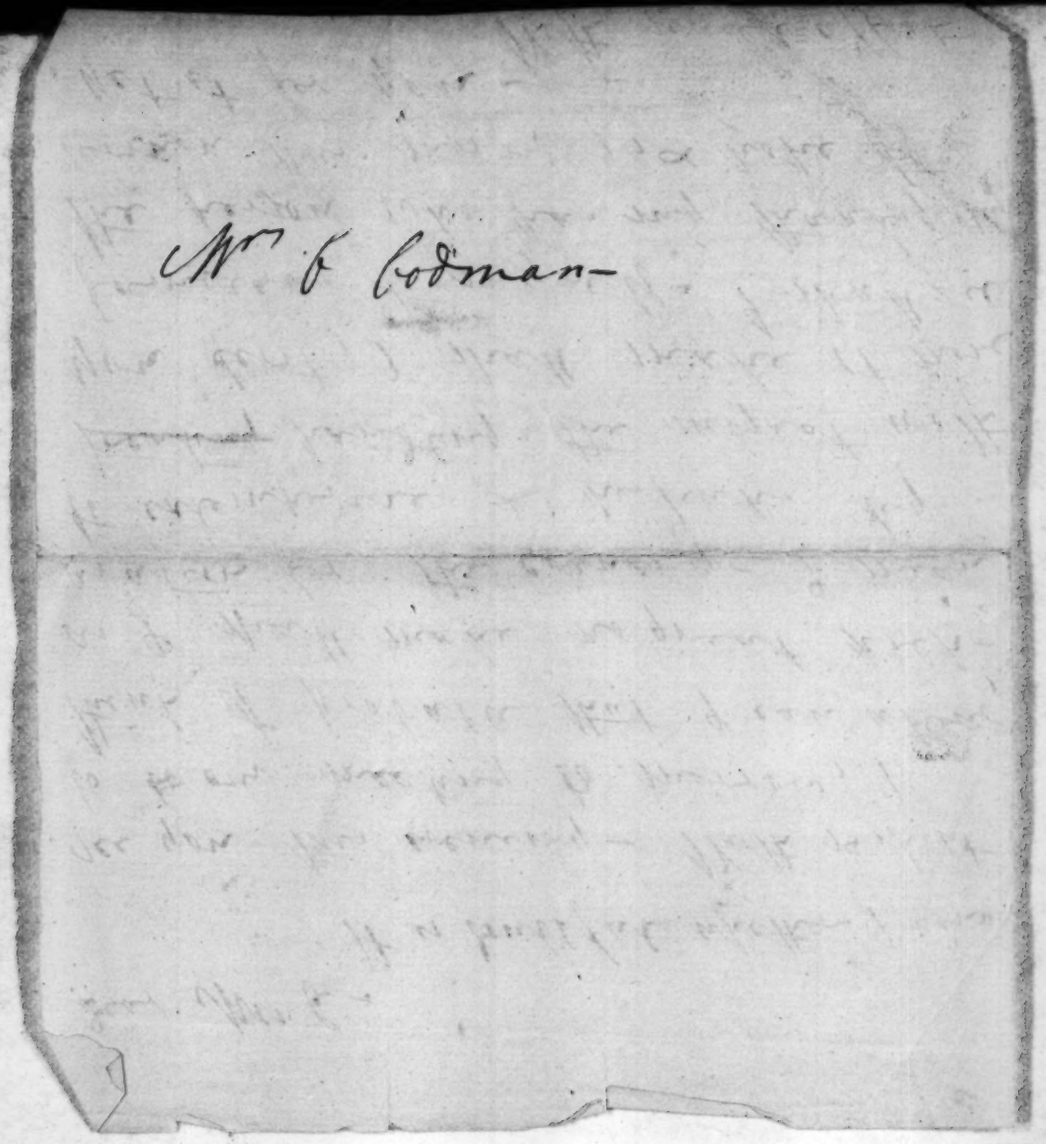
William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #32

Dear Mrs C—

It is doubtful whether I can see you this evening— With respect to our meeting to morrow, I think it probable that I can attend, as I shall make no great preparation for the evening— I mean to extemporize, & perhaps by ~~inventing~~ handling the subject with you first, I shall make it more familiar to myself— I shall see the person who has my thanksgiving sermon this morning, & hope to get it for you—

With sincere affect

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #33



William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #33

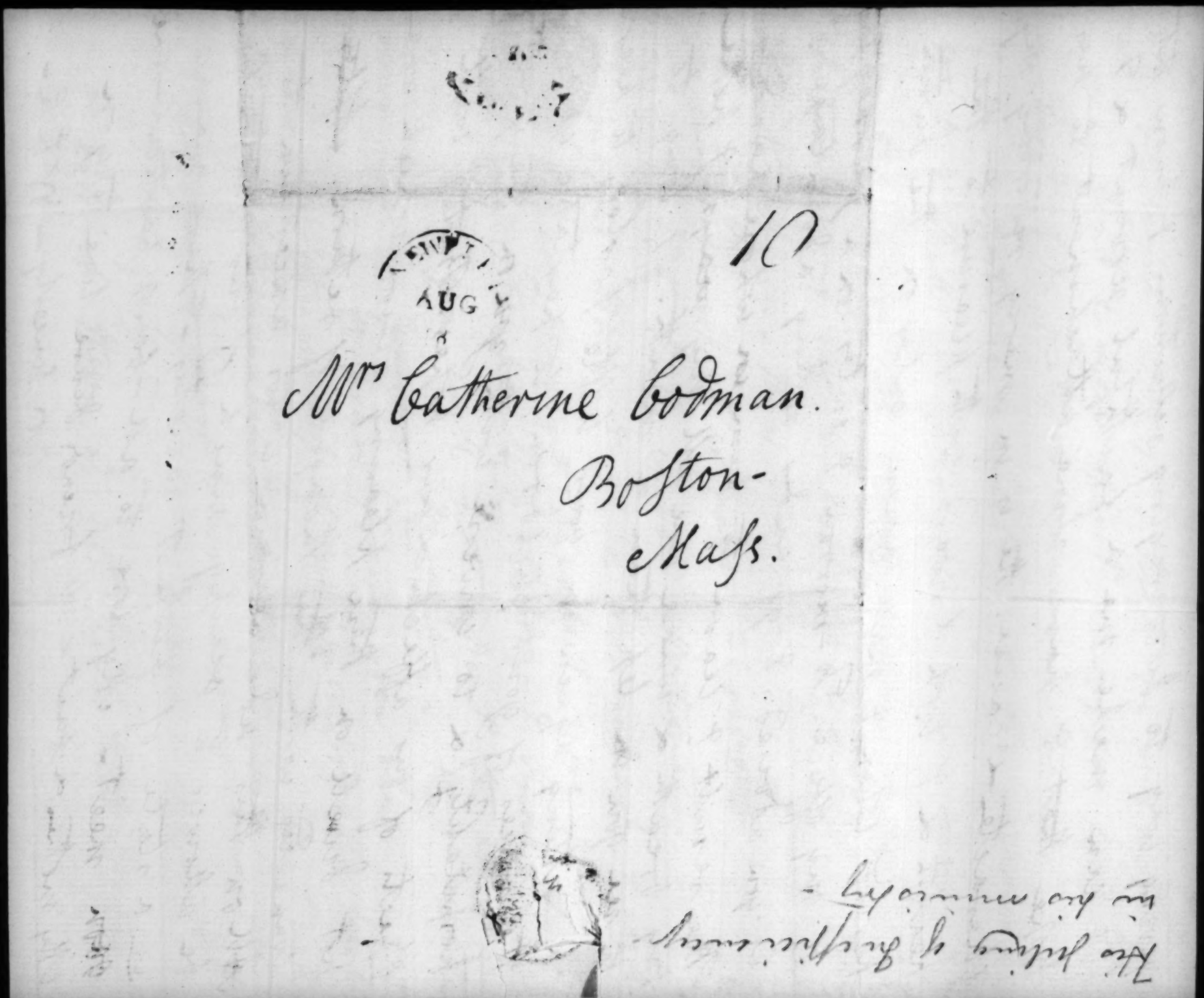
Newport. August-Sunday Eveg-

My dear frend-

I cannot thank you enough for your last letter. In this banishment, if I may so call it, from the scene of my labors & from the people of my charge, it is peculiarly pleasing to receive expresions of ~~my~~ your friendship, & to hear ~~that~~ of the health prosperity & spiritual blessings which a kind providence continues to our society. You tell me for my encouragement that my flock has been well fed in my absence. Of this I have no doubt. My separation from my people would indeed be painful, were I left to the melancholy reflection that their eternal interests might suffer by it. I ought to feel grateful to God, that while he chastens me & sends me away from his vineyard as one unworthy of his service, he is pleased to supply my place with laborers of whose piety & fidelity I have often heard & been myself a witness ~~I am obliged to~~ ~~[illegible]~~. It is my prayer, & wish I could

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #34

my my earnest prayer, that on my return
I may find a new spirit among our people,
a spirit of the piety & love, a deep living sense
of the importance & excellence of the gospel. I
think I shall not bear one envious feeling towards
any one whom God may make the instrument
of awakening our friends to a serious atten-
tion to religion. It is too true that while
an outward respect is paid to religious institutions
there is but little inward affectionate piety
among us. While I make the remark, I feel
that I have no right to expect more fruit
from my cold heartless labors - I know very
well that you will not assent to all I
have written. ~~You will~~ Do not think, that I wrote
with a view to draw from you flattering re-
marks on the success of my ministry. The fact
is, that I cannot think on this subject with
out ~~longing to view~~ taking many humbling
views of myself, & with a friend I cannot
but express them. Do not think that I am
giving way to discouraging reflections. I know that
God can make me a faithful servant, & I
hope that I have some attachment to his
character & cause. He is in mercy restoring my
health & I look forward with pleasure to the
period when I shall again enter on the duties
of my office. To-morrow I enter on a journey, as
as you advised. I go under many advantages.
The result I leave to him in whose hands is
my breath & whose are all my ways. I hope
to see you in less than a month. I long to
be sitting again in your little parlor, to hear
the voices of your children, to partake your
hospitality, & to converse with you on the
objects of our affections & our hopes. But I will
not dwell on these pleasing views which are
connected with the thoughts of return. ~~After~~
all on this side heaven is too uncertain to
be allowed to occupy much of our thots. Here
is a state of perfect society - there may we
soon meet - My love to all - but particularly to
My mother, aunt & all friends. Desire love to you
Yr sincerly - W E C-



Mrs Catherine Codman.
Boston-
Mass.

AUG

10

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #34

Wednesday. P M.

My dear friend—

As you wished the enclosed to be returned this afternoon, I can give you but a line. Why should you not send it to Mrs R. The cordial friendship it breathes must gratify. I want much to see you & have a long talk with you. When that will be I cannot exactly tell, not to-morrow, I think. Do communicate your feelings, hopes, fears, most freely, & be assured of unchanging sympathy—

Yours very truly

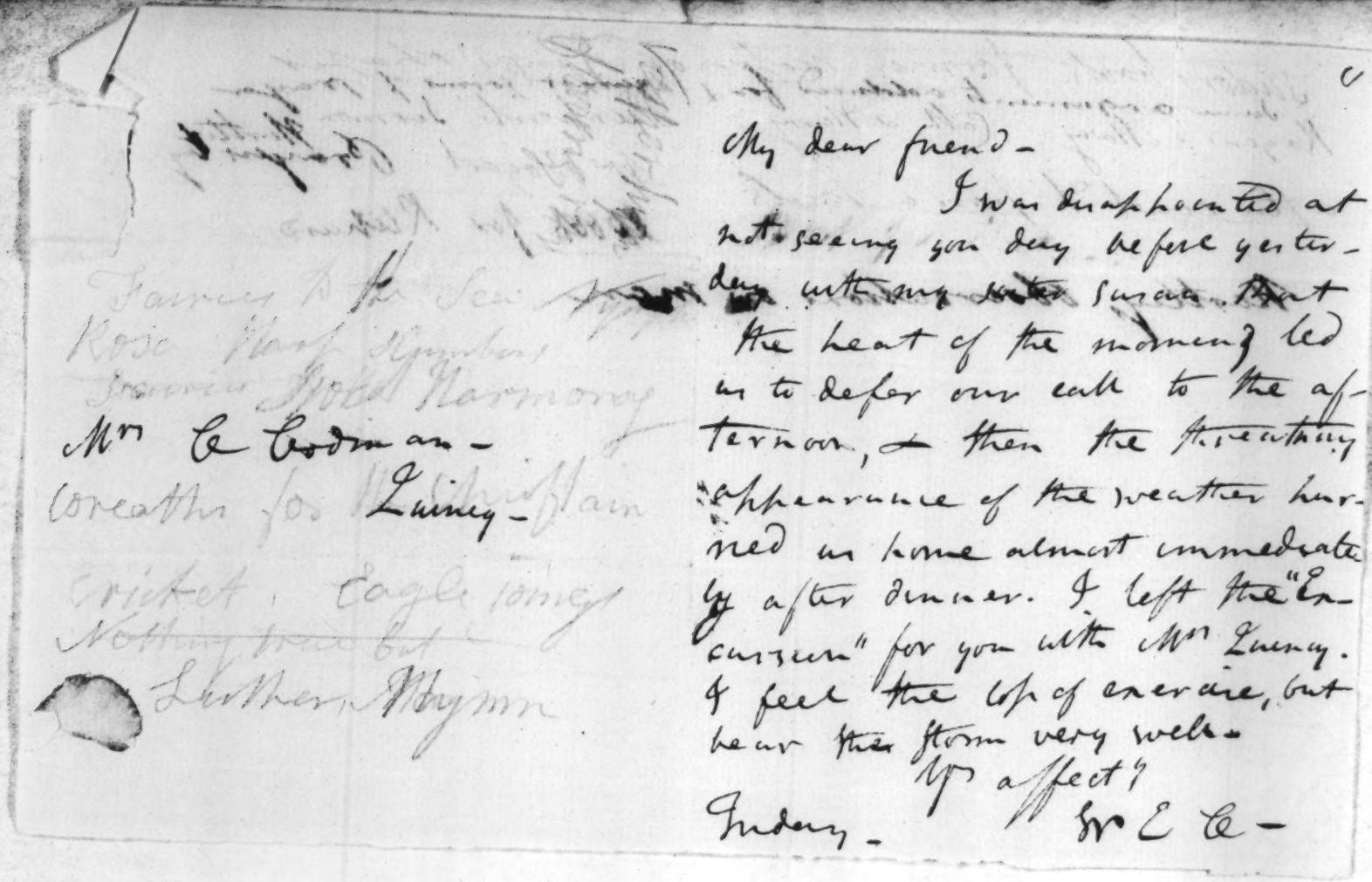
W E Channing—

I never saw Kingsberry's memoir. You wrote as if you had sent it—but it was not brought.

1820?

Mrs C Codman.

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #35



My dear friend -

I was disappointed at not seeing you day before yesterday with my sister Susan. But the heat of the morning led us to defer our call to the afternoon, & then the threatening appearance of the weather hurried us home almost immediately after dinner. I left the "Encursion" for you with Mrs Quincy. I feel the loss of exercise, but bear this storm very well.

Yrs affectly

Wm E C -

Mrs C Codman -

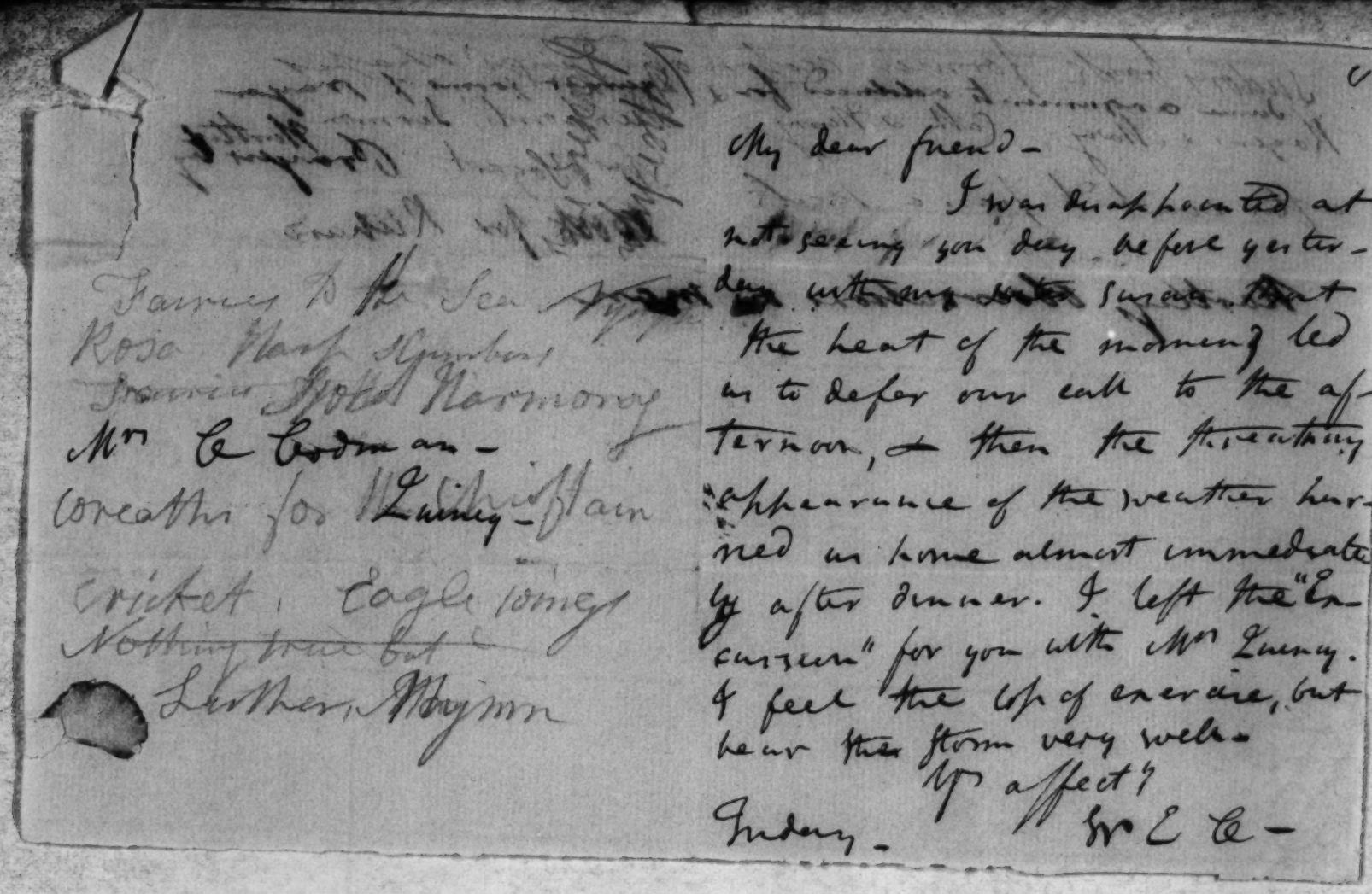
Quincy -

Cricket. Eagle Song

Nothing but

Luther's Hymn

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #36


Fannie B. Ide Sea
Rosa Hart Gyrbers
Francis Todd Harmony
Mrs C Codman -
Wreaths for Lindsey - Blair
Cricket, Eagle Pond
Nothing true but
Heaven, Mayhew

C

My dear friend -

I was disappointed at not seeing you day before yesterday - but the heat of the morning led us to defer our call to the afternoon, & then the threatening appearance of the weather hurried us home almost immediately after dinner. I left the "Encyclopedia" for you with Mrs Lindsey. I feel the effects of exercise, but bear the storm very well.

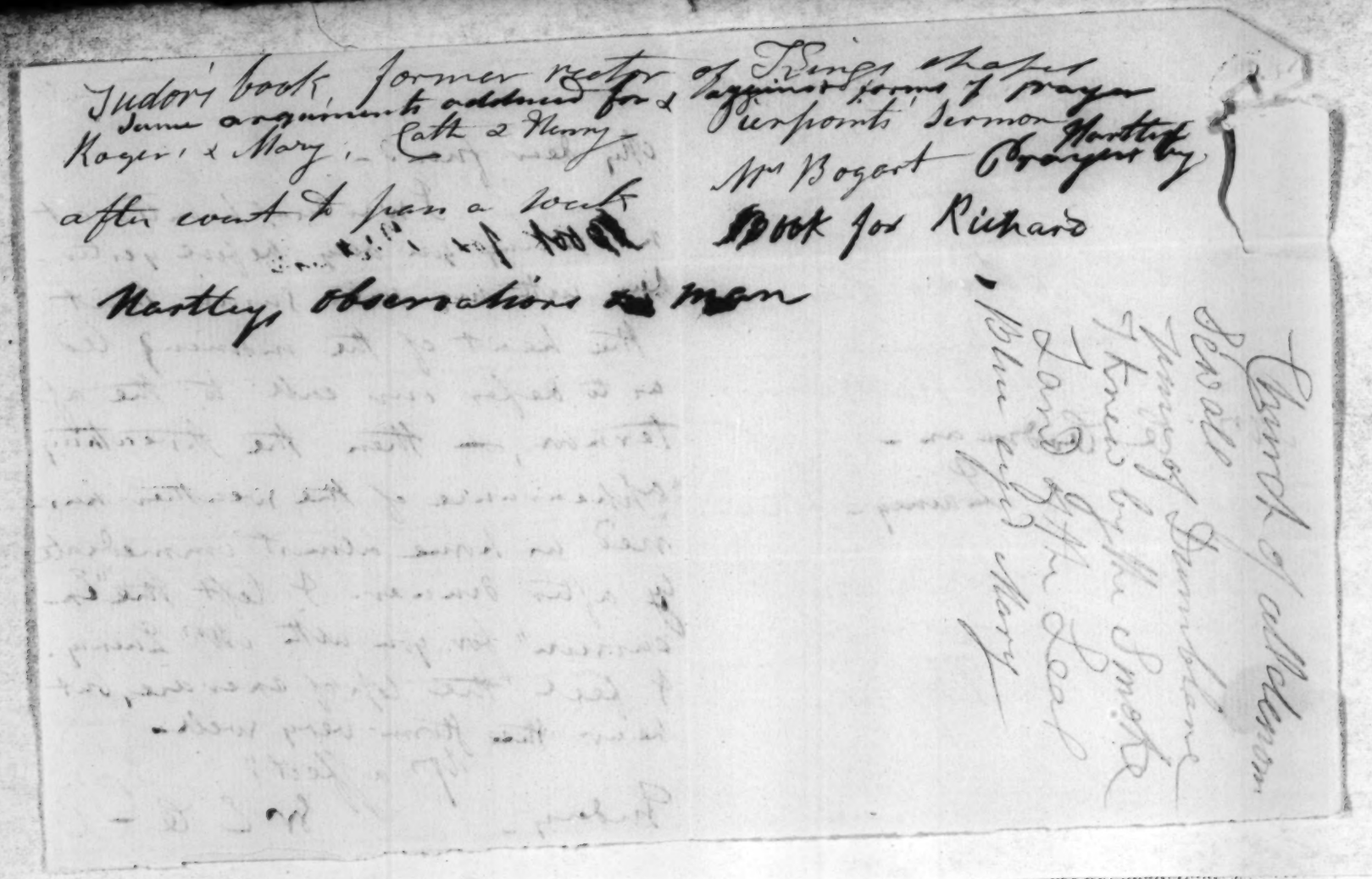
Yrs affectly

Wm E C -

Lindsey -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #36

INTENTIONAL DUPLICATE EXPOSURE



William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #36

Judor's book. Former letter
Same arguments addressed for
Roger & Mary. Catt & Henry
after coat & pass a book
Hartley Observations on man

Things chapter
Against forms of prayer
Persons Sermon Hartley
Mrs Bogart Arranged by
Book for Richard

Church of all Nations
Senate Dominions
Temple Dominions
Thanks to the Lord
Land of the Dead
Blue Eyes
Mary

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #36

INTENTIONAL DUPLICATE EXPOSURE

My ever kind friend —

I cannot with-
stand you. Though I thought I
had hardened my heart against
all importunity — I send you the
sermon. Return it as soon as may
be — I thank you for your kind
remembrance of my friend. As D.
he deserves all we can do for her-

Yours affectly

WEC —

I am weak, but
convalescing fast, I hope.)
(Mercury —

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #37

Mrs C Codman -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 37

Dear Mrs C-

I have a bible which your sister M'Lean was kind enough to purchase for me, & which I wish to send to Mrs Stone. When Jupiter is at leisure, can he call for it & can you direct him where to carry it— I shall soon begin my journey. Peace be with you & yours. I hope we shall remember each other in our

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 38

prayers, & be permitted to
meet again in health – But
the future is in wiser hands
than ours – It's most affectg

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #38

My dear Mr Frere.

Mr Channing tells me, that you spoke of calling on me. I cannot think of giving you this trouble - but will call on you to day, if you are not engaged, at 11 o clock -

With great regard

Yr

Wm E Channing

Wednesday morng -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 39

I shall lecture, D.V. once, to the mechanics apprentices next monday eve'g, so that I shall not preach on sunday

Yr. very truly

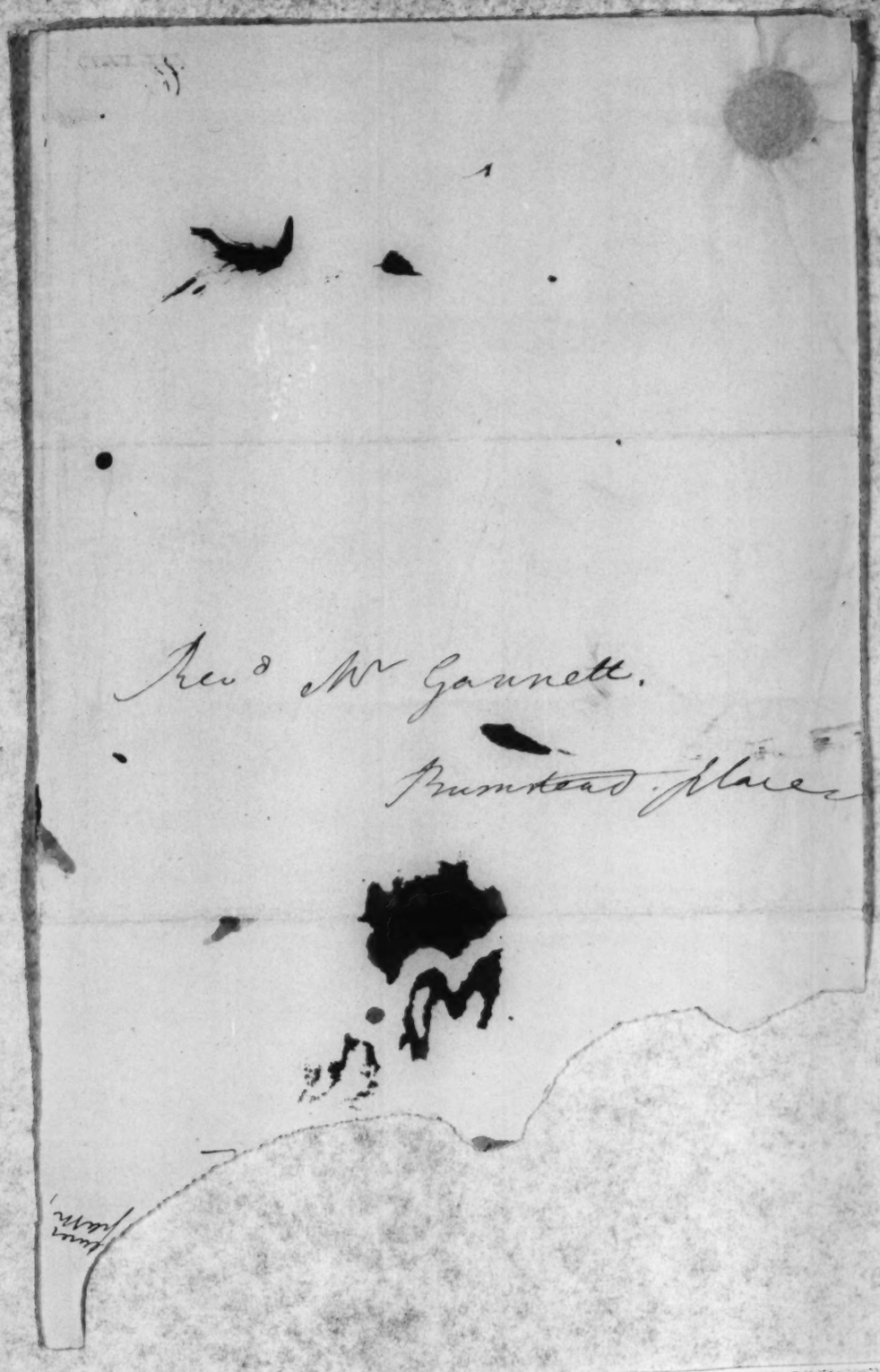
W E Channing -

[as saturday be much only for - demand for tickets of former eleva -

Wednesday -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #40

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #40



William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #40

Dear Sir -

I am driven abroad for a dinner to-day by the masons who are working on my chimney, & I work not to be far from my house - If convenient, I will come & take a family dinner with you at what hour? Yrs truly

Wednesday - W E Channing

Gives me by the recipients daughter Miss Harriet Field.

Thomas & Sandy -
Early reply on G -
& at enquiry for duty -

n.d. c

Dear Sir.

There is a half barrel of flour for me on board the Carlo, for which I enclose the bill of lading. Will you please to take it into your warehouse, paying the freight; should you have received any packages for me by the Carlo, will you send them by Mr Ritchie. I received some letters & papers yesterday.

Yr
Very Truly
Wm E Channing.

Thomas with G -
Ready from him
- he will
Ask for what that is -
Enquire at for the other packs -

Friday morng. Chester hill.

Excommunicate – this
is the power – & it reaches
to a body? Every body
excludes –

External relation, as well
as spiritual – is not this
required in order of civ.
il society, has it no power
over its Members?

Does not Xty present
a general outline, the
relig'n, for all its
members to pursue –

The church – a collective
name, embracing all dis-
ciples – what does the
power –

Xty a ch – a city – a body –
collective name, uses every
where used –

Most weighty these
is in numbers –

Is there unity to be
feared from clearly the
ch into units, destroying
all oneness, order &c –

Is there no need of re-
sponsibility to some visible
power –

Is not the moral
power to be accommo-
dated in society by dis-
cipline &c –

What unity, will you not
have elements in disord-
Yes mistake, this to be
overcome only by exclusion
of numbers –

earth & H – We need of
family of H & earth – Does
this imply visible union –
Is not Xt the only head
of spiritual temple, body,
ch, not of this world –
Union of hearts the essence –
Pentecost were the badge –
Does this bond admit regulat –

The whole pretext – a pretext
Union all Xt-sympathy &c – the
end –

Individual reason –
To act from this conscience,
to exercise it – this the
essential principle of the
ch –
Individual effort for relig'n
is most needed –
The greatest individ act or
one unite is required –
Government respects outward
action – Xty inward – hence
inconsistent –
Thence ch has punishments, excommu-
nication, religious celebrations –
Is not the spirit of Xty, the true
spring of moral act, point out-
fitness &c –
Is there any ground of in-
crease of obedience in mon-
istry –
Then a danger of the office –
Can any government attract
enlarge intellect, purify the

teaches above the temporal &c
Ministers – lectures – this
the only relation –
Ministry abused in element
and Babel made –

Church, good by its members –
does this and freedom – the in-
fluential rule –
of improvement
The tendency is, to make
peace men responsible to
the moral power in him
over & of the world, & to
put down all the power –
Is not the sanction of moral
truth in common of more
weight & ab discipline –
There must be unity – but
internal –
Does it need outward organs,
institutions – Here the question –
The power of the moral
principle, as a bond of any,
& this understood –
Loyalty – is this the great bond –
Legislat
External, spiritual society, the great good –
Then not to be superseded, but
the soul of all legislat –
To turn men to the moral
diverse legislat. the end, &
this is to subvert foreign dis-
cipline –

individual –
Large masses, armies, establis,
all degrade the individual –
"Great numbers, needed to awaken mor
Do they not prevent calm that –
"But to get mass to act according
to counts, a great king – inventions –
"Excitement needed.

"Crimes must be forbidden not
only by conscience, but by the state,
the general will, be declared to
punished as such. There must
be institutions to declare & repress
what ought not to be commanded.

"Institutions are concentrations of collected
mind, wealth, force.

"Great things accomplished by revenue.
Great mass of wealth make for-
tunes & impoverish – inequality
of condition –
Is it by great social wealth, that
deep wants of the soul is awakened
these men cannot fascinate – The
present subjection like to fatal.

Let us artificial forms of
society – fewer models to cast
men in –
Institutions – means of exercise
power –
– of resistance & exhibition
of virtue –
What old laws be without institutions to
carry it into effect –

Institutions –
Fickleness,
fancy, mistake must
some act for some end
Arrangements not to be constant
but –
The principle of habit ap-
pealed to – others recur at
certain times –
Order – uniform succes-
sion – rules – these
belong to institutions –
The individual taken from
himself to be self centred,
from individual judgt,
& put into a general
rule –
Both advance what institutions –
Mechanism follows –
Institutions are organs of
power – modes by which
people move act –
"How can public will act,
but in institutions?
How powerful is it, what
then! this must it be!
Order – obedience to laws, to
general rules –
"Institutions embody, keep
out, the moral sentiment –
Judiciary –
Is the world to be
governed by great
statesmen, acting with
ministers, or by individual
efforts –
Is not individual
first, only, merged
in State ways –
The machinery of
society degrades the

Publick will -

Moral person -
Unity in a state -
A single will in a state -
Law -
The individual cannot say - I command -
No I in laws - not personal -
I at advantage of useful laws - but the I is lost -
The idea of general good is left most in sight -
Does I get about in spite - the absence of I - I pure love the Source -
The statesman is man of many for common good -
His idea of general common good, the soul of the state -
Law is spirit & the means of this -

(It shd) be independence of the government of G = good for the whole

Virtue the power -
Must it be felt to be such? Does this constitute its power -
Is this peace necessary to firm adherence to the right -
Is there any principle of mind, but a obedient love -

Yet this

Is it advantage of free governments that laws are obeyed with force -
Point is to discover general good, & make it known -
Do. free govt make this the obj of the whole community - presents large obj -
Is it the end of civil, religious govt, that the general good shall be obj of intent -

May not a good man be conscientious -
Is there no judge but my judgt -
Is virtue all -
Is not judgt a part of virtue?
A sound mind, prudence &c important -

Dear Edes— I wish you to hand the enclosed letter for my sister to Mr Moore, with my respects—

Yrs &c.

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #43

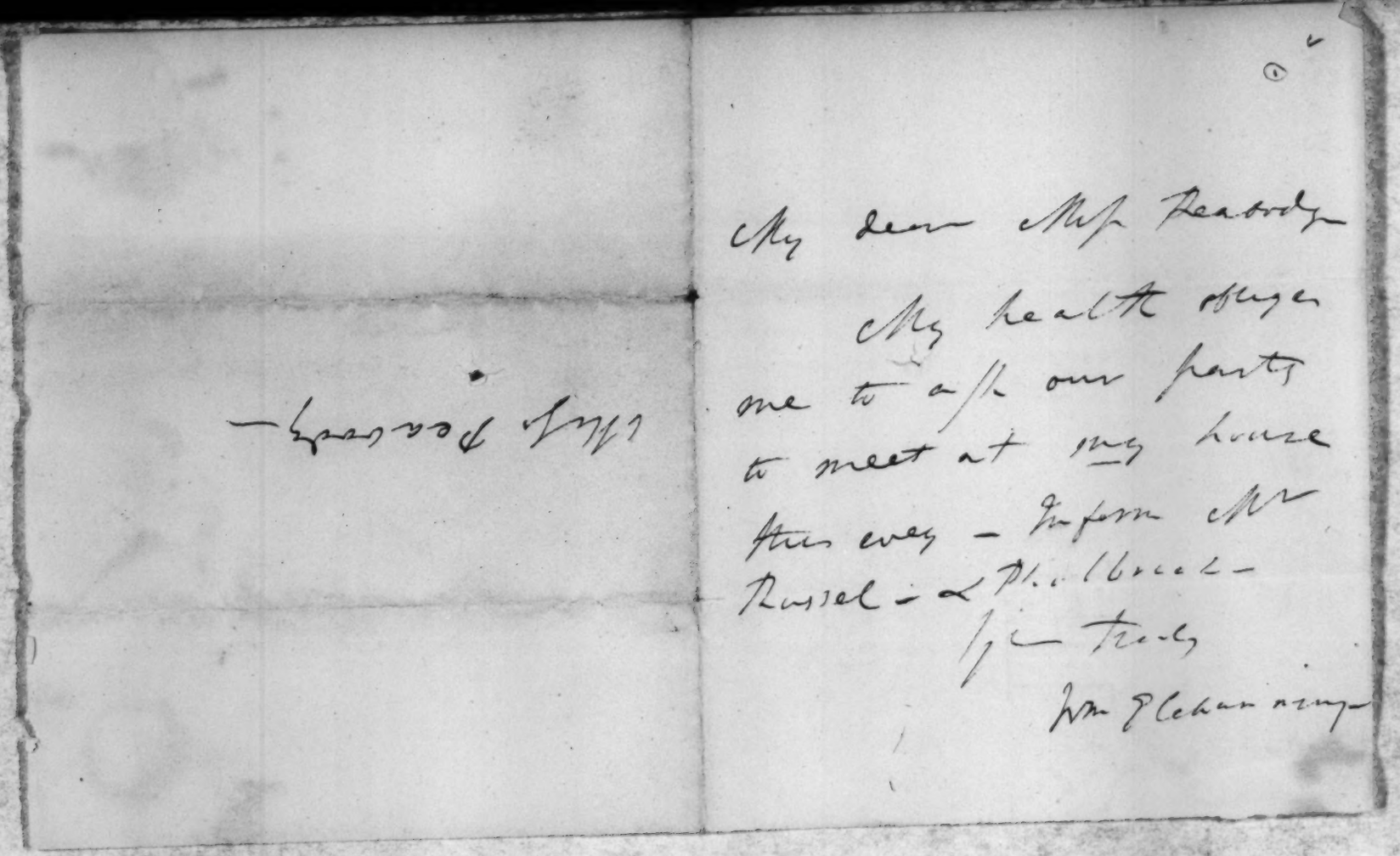
Miss Eloise R Payne -

No 346 Broadway

New York -

Mr Phillips -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #43



My dear Miss Peabody

My health obliges me to ask our party to meet at my house this evening — Inform Mr Russel & Mr. Brooks — I am truly

Wm Ellery Channing

Miss Peabody —

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #44

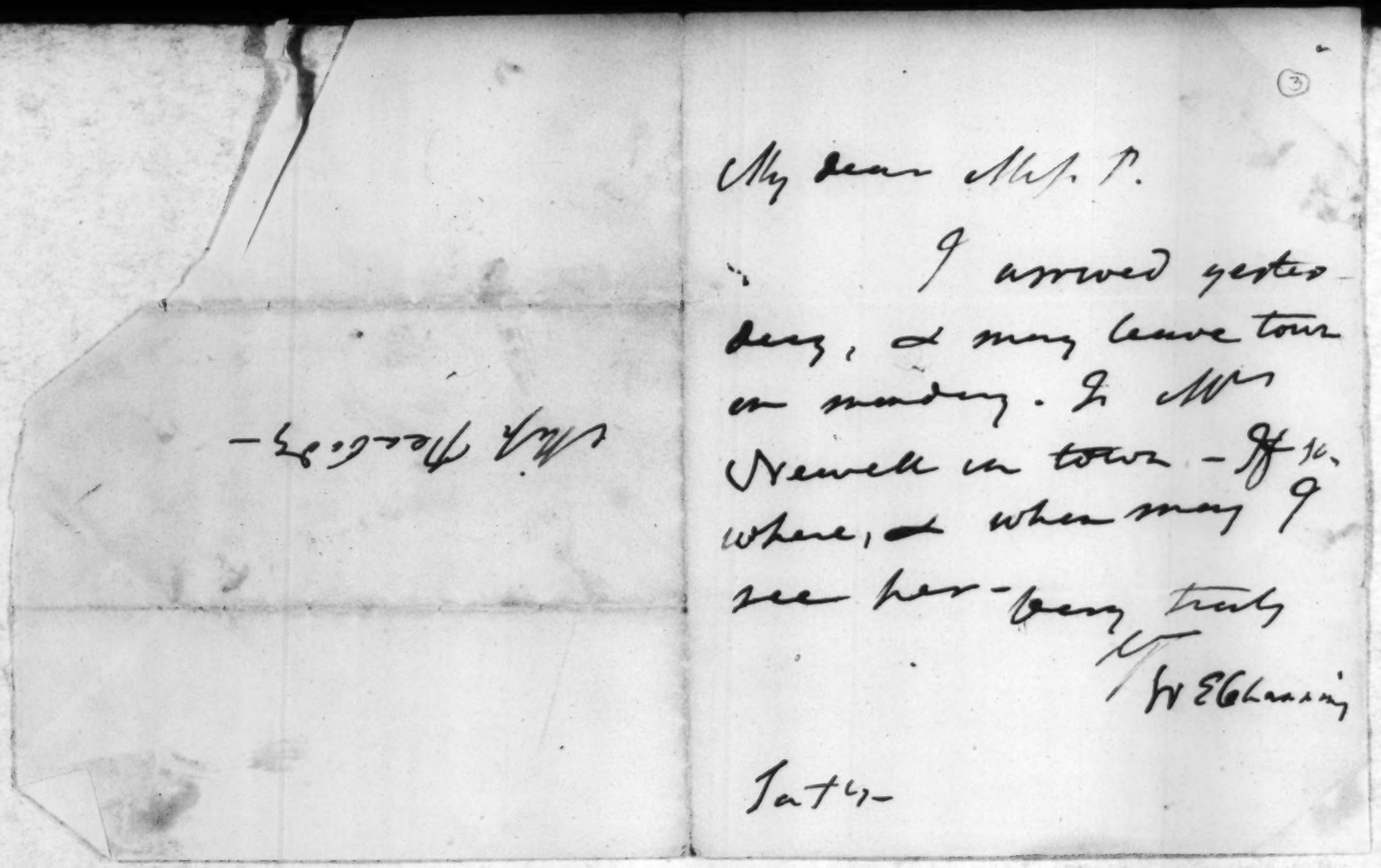
(2)

I send charcharters
in bad order - the general
map too torn to be used -
& others injured - Will you
see that it does not fall
into the hands of the
scholars, & if lost it
should become useless

very sincerely
Yr. E Channing

Tuesday -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #45



(3)

My dear Mrs. P.

I arrived yester-
day, & may leave town
on monday. Is Mrs
Newell in town - If so,
where, & when may I
see her - Very truly
Yr W E Channing

Sat'y -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #46

(41)

My dear Mrs P—

On account of the weather, we will defer our meeting until Friday evening— Will you tell Mr Russell—

Yrs very truly,

W E Channing

Mrs Peabody—

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #47

n.d. c

My dear Sir.

I understood Mr Savage yesterday that you were to dine with him ~~yesterday~~ to day — & if so, & if you expect no other company, I shall be glad to be your Guest. Should the weather prove unfavourable, & you think it prudent to stay at home, I beg you not to wait for me —

Yours truly
Wm E Channing

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #48

Much more danger from good men reformed & raised to fanat[ical] ~~[illegible]~~ of life—

Strange that a reformation should beget the vice—

In countries, where this vice is viewed with leniency, a general relaxation of morals has produced the evil, not attempts to reform—

~~Jacobinism~~ Phebe Esq.

~~Beacon St—~~

In such countries, the relaxation of conjugal bond in higher classes, has prepared the way—the conjugal fidelity is found in middle classes—

Honest moral instincts is the surest source of high moral sentiment—

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #48

My dear Mr Ewing.

I will thank you to return the manuscript I left with you. I expect this evening some gentlemen to whom it is to be submitted. I hope you can give me some remarks upon it.

Very affectly
yr
W E Channing

Tuesday —

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #49

Mrs J Quincy.

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #49

[Channing, William E.] n.d. C

[Channing Russell]

My dear Lucy - I cannot let Mr Sedgwick leave us without a line for you, although he & Mrs S. cannot report to you our state better than I can. Your safe arrival at N Y relieved us from some solicitude & we hope you found pleasures in your visit which would tempt you to remain, & if this motive is too interested, you must remember that you gave much pleasure, & your kindness must be our excuse in our favour. You saw, I trust, that Mother & your friends in general here are enjoying as much as suits the great purpose of this life. Few families have greater cause of gratitude, & sometimes look such astonishment on the singular prosperity which has been allotted us, I say singular, when I consider our circumstances & prospects at our father's death. Perhaps I have been led into this train of thought by having been told by a young widowed mother to day, that she shd go to town

to G—

The Xn counts his pride down, that G may be exalted—

He believes himself & perfection as nothing, that his trust may be in G—

X We see why such importance is attached to self denial—

One reason of the diffy which most of men to the self denying precepts of Xty is that they do not enough consider the ruin & depravity here— They ask why deny them — why feel as Xtians & pride & selfishness — Why not Xtians —

The answer is, you must do these, to prevent yr hearts to G— The sense of enmity to G — so in worldliness—

If you give to the creature the place of the creator, you cannot expect G to reign in you—

I appeal to you, my friends, conscience — conscience the world & G—

Oh did we know, what it was to have G reign — how little we shd value other things —

They are infin evils in self & form G —

for them and. he strives to empty, cleanse, & purify his mind of idolatrous attachments, that he may have a heart to give to G—

Now the spring & motive of this self denial—

He denies himself, not that mere pain or hardship — but for G's sake

the pains he puts on are consecrated to supreme being — & so pleasing to G —

Xty is entirely direct in its requisitions— It demands us to crucify self— We must positively cast down world—

but the end is that G may exalted— that we may be seen to be only source of good —

this self denial, not aimed at union with G, is not Xn—

thence it is strongly recommended here—

Examine the heart of Xn, in self centred— We see why — nothing else comes in

another to get some

contrary to the

contrary

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #50

n.d.

July 24.

My dear Lucy -

I wrote ya requesting you to send us a cook, if you know of a good one. Should you not be able to do this, will you send the enclosed letter to Philadelphia, paying the postage for it -

Mother is here & very well - We expect you this week - Mr Ledyard should you see him, can give you the news of the island -

Yr very affectly
W E C -

Will you send to Doyle[illegible]y for the shoes that I engaged there -

Our conduct, of no serious, ought to inspire gloom, fear -

If we understood it we shall fear -

With knowledge that gloom is useless, prevent it -

greatest responsibly -

a deity, how much dependence, must weigh on us -

Solicitude the true feeling -

Hell - this before us - Fear -

Love - takes the form of anxiety, where great danger is foreseen -

Circumstances - what a depository that -

y, first impression on a rebuke - how far we are from this purity -

Reverence, solemnity, these relyn -

Ought not our conduct to be reviewed, that a result to it will produce pure frame of mind -

Can it be heart-withering -

Solemn - is this the true feeling -

Is perfection - a glowing idea?

Effort, watchfulness, prayer not necessary duteously - but mind be animated -

The idea of infinite torment an element of misery now -

We are to feel ourselves formed for a great work Love -

- for conduct to govern it

- for self-government -

for a great part of this life - as entirely connected to great ends by neglect this - or always; acts morally, affects this world -

Mr Channing
New York

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #51

W E Channing

Dear Shaw.

If the weather will permit, I wish you to call here this evening. I feel much interested in the subject of our last conversation. I fear lest in the confidence of friendship, I excited in your mind suspicions of the innocent. Be careful that you dont not hint of what I suggested. I hope that we have heard a false hood & that we may be able to expose it.

Yrs Sincerely

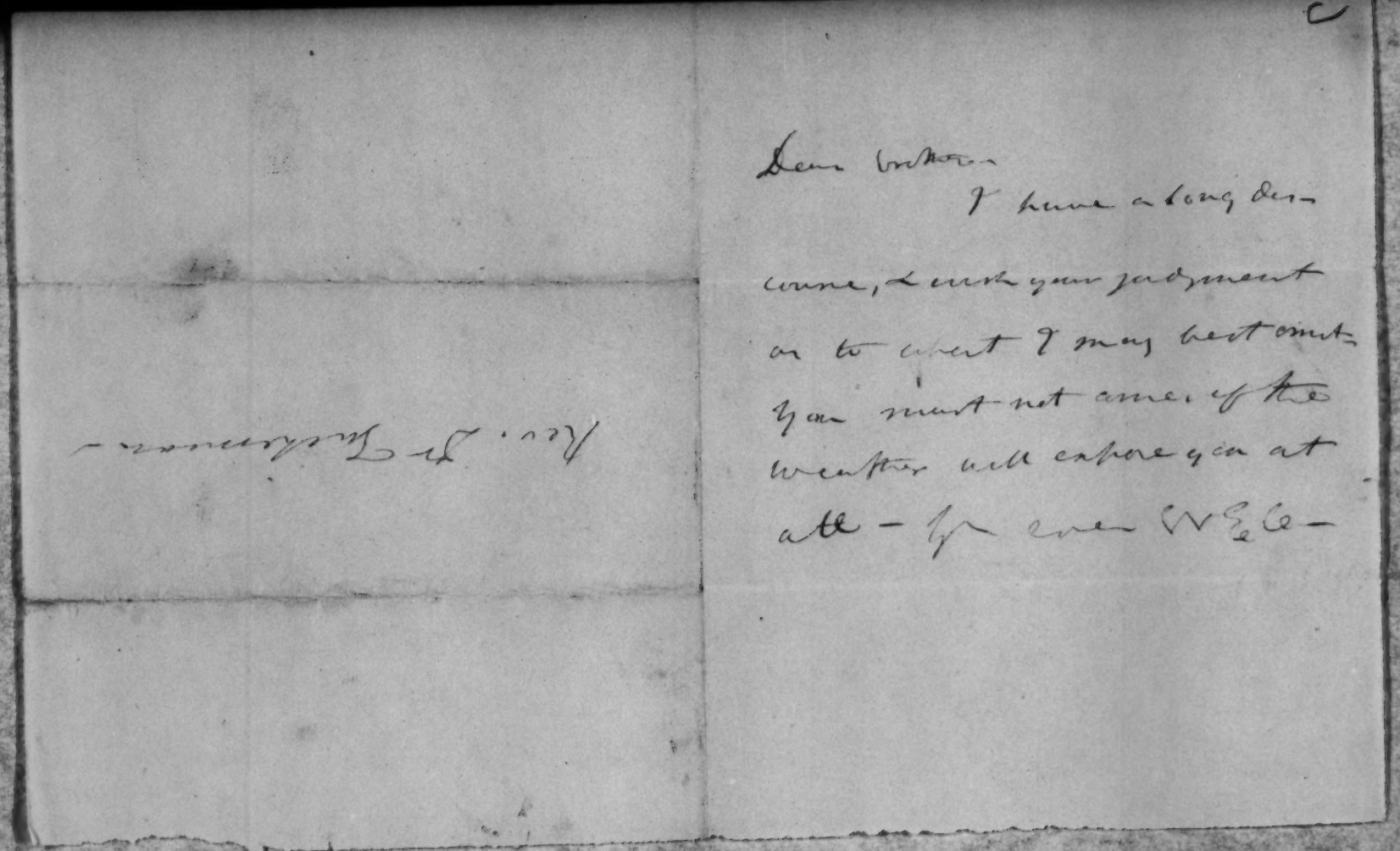
W E Channing

Tuesday. Eve.

Mr Williams Shaw.

at Mr Adams office

Court - Street



Dear brother

I have a long dis-
course, & seek your judgment
as to what I may best omit.
You must not come if the
weather will endanger you at
all - for even W E C -

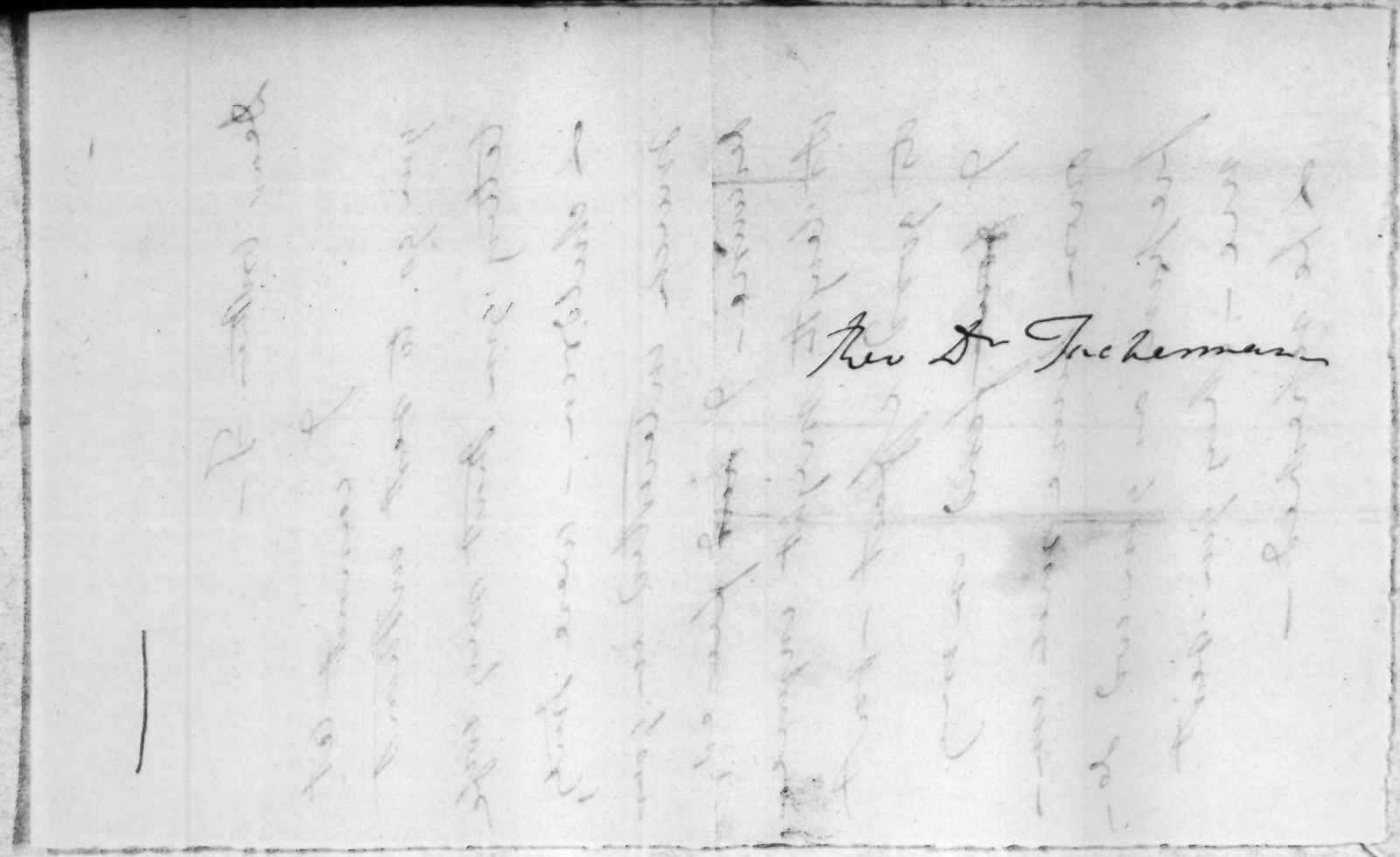
Rev. Dr Channing

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #53

C

Dear Brother J—

I cannot let you go to sea without telling you that my wife & children — were truly, much interested in your discourse — & ~~had~~ feared, its length might injure its good effect — but I ~~found~~ find in my own home not unfrequent reasons for wishing it were longer — than you sent it to be reported —



William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #54

Dear Sir -

I send you the reverse of the first part of my pamphlet - Wch you go over at as soon as you conveniently - & note on a separate paper any errors I am anxious to publish you

Yrs ever

Wednesday eve - WEC -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #55

My dear Sister J— Newton— Augt 24—

Mr Channing takes this, & will give you an account of Sarah— What he can not, I have told her to call on you for any counsel or aid— What you told me respecting Barnard troubled me— Mr Ripley, the best friend of the ministry for the poor, told me that the decided opinion of our congregation was against separating children from parents or guardians— as we, the ministry cannot stand, if it is to be the means of producing this effect. I trust no one of your colleagues is ready to accept it— I am very anxious to write Barnard, if I can get perfect information of the facts—

very affectly,

W E Channing—

I want much to know the spirit of the meeting on Friday last.)

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #56

Rev. Dr Tuckerman,

Boston.

Channing Aug 24 (18?)
Invite - &c Boston.

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #56

My dear brother —

I send you a letter for my sister, & one to introduce you to an Exeter gentleman, whom I have spoken of as a philanthropist, who will make you known to men of the first —

The weather has confined me to-day, & in truth I was not unwilling to keep at home — Parting words are somewhat trying — I need not tell you with what affectionate thoughts, wishes & prayers I shall follow you & your companion — On losing you two, I part with some of my greatest blessings — But it as well — I rejoice that you are going. I have as strong confidence

in the happy issue of this attempt to
regain health - Do write me whenever
can & command my services, for as
they are - God be with you & bless you -

Yours ever
WEC

Wednesday eve[ning] -

Rev. Dr Tuckerman.

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #57

Dear Brother J—

I have read the
report with much pleasure. It
is the best, & not the worse
for wanting my critical aids—
for wanting my critical aids—

Have you Miss Carter's Epictetus
has which I sent you—

Have you not a translation
of one of the Greek Tragedians
by Henry Schneider — Whatever
it be, loan it to me—

Yr ever W E C—

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 58

Dr Tuckerman—

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 58

Newport - 29 -

Dear Brother J -

I wrote you a long letter two or three days ago; long enough to satisfy you for some time; but I omitted an important particular. You told me in your last that you were unwell, & intended to ride about with Mrs J a fortnight or so. I wish you would take our retreat in your way. A little breathing of our air might do you as much good as any thing. To-day we began to feel like summer. On Sunday last & the two following days we had quite cold weather. How was it with you? Perhaps another plan may suit you — Why can you not come with Sarah — & afterwards travel with Mrs J — & take us on your way again? We want Sarah much. Mrs C is obliged to visit Boston in a few days — & Mary will be alone — Let S bring your last book, the 4th number of "Scenes &c" — Is there a book in Boston called "hours of devotion", a translation, I believe from the German. Can you ask Adeline to get it, & send it by S — I should like two have Miss Sedgwick's "Home" bound — & work yours bound also — very truly & affectly

W E Channing -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 59

A Note - Unimportant

Sing Portsmouth RR
June 10

May 11

Rev. D Tuckerman,

Boston,

Mass.

Mr. Abbot Phillips
Hair cut. Andrew Cutter

See Hannah Farrar Bred Street
Mr Mr Rogers Wid - Mary Ann White
Wid - Lefferts Mrs Wm Rice
Mrs. Bratilla Cutter living with
Mr Rogers -

(Children - Horace, Augustus & Charles
Mary Ann Chalmers & Lucy & George St
(Mr Wilder, 17 Pinckney St

To Dr Tuckerman Chelsea

+ Friday -

My dear brother -

I grieve to hear of your sickness. I wish I could send my colleague - but he exchanges on sunday with Mr Huntoon of Boston, & I cannot do more with a part of the day - I know but one man here to help you, except Mr Reed, who I think may be persuaded to spend sunday with you. if you can send for him & return him - he has not preached, I believe, for some time, but has not given us the profession - you can judge,

I should you wish him, write to him immediately or through me or one of your brothers —

My wife send you a tumbler of blackberry jelly, which we think very good in affections of the throat. It is one of our family medicines — She says too, that black-currant jelly is very useful. Let us serve you how we can —

It the time never coming, when Christians will be less dependent on ministers than they now are. I feel deeply the defects of the present organization of the Christian church. "Every joint of the body should "work effectually" for the common growth, I see a few a few men have a monopoly of the work

Yr affectly
W E C —

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 60

Rev. D. Thackeray

Chelsea

Boston Monday

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #60

n.d. c
Jan. 3

Dear bro Tom—

A man named Wiley called on me day before yesterday forenoon—a large man, who spoke of his acquaintance with many respectable men—his appearance made me fear to give him money—He told me he resided in Pond St, near the hay scales—I think he said, he was a single man—Will you learn his address & enclose 10 dolls—which I wish you to use where needed—The day is cold—take care of yourself—If you cannot go out, & should see Mr Gray, you can name Wiley's case to him—

Yr ever affc—

Sat 4 Jan 43

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #61

Rev. Dr Tuckerman—

Rev. Dr Channing—

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #61

c

Our classmate Beede dines
with me to-day. While you
join us. Yrs truly W E C.

Thursday.

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #62

Dr Jackerman

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #62

He ought not to travel alone, as he proposes to do - He not only need a companion for society, but to watch over him in case of indisposition. I have urged him on this point. Can you suggest one - I write in great haste

Yours truly & ever
Wm E Channing.

Rev. Dr Tuckerman,

Boston -

C

Dear Wife I -

Mr & Mrs Adam
dine with us to morrow with-
out ceremony, & we have no
other company. Will you & Sarah
join us - Mary sent a note
to Sarah this morning for Re-
becca Watts - We wish to send
it as soon as you can -

Very sincerely
yrs W E Channing

Thursday eveg -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #64

Oct. 15. Mr. Whittwell
" Mr. Andrews.
16. Mr. Chaddock
of Newbedford.

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #64

My dear brother I —

May a kind providence water over & strengthen you & bring you back to us but for your good work — I would have called on you, had I not thought it best to keep at home after my laborious — I send you some letters — Wish upon us leaving Providence engage for some passenger who will post at Newport & ask her to put the letter for Miss Gibbs into the post office there in the

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #65

course of the day - should you
meet no one on board, you can
find some one on the wharf, when
the steam-boat stops - Do not
trouble yourself about the
letter to my sister, N York -
Throw it into the Post office,
unless you would like to call
on her, which will gratify
her - Peace be with you -

Yr truly

WEC -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #65

Rev. Dr Tuckerman.

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #65

[William E. Channing

n.d.
c

My dear friend— It is a long time indeed since I saw you, but I have not been abroad unless called by some duty. If my visits to you were less pleasant, I might more easily place them on the list of duties— My cold is now confined to my throat & is hardly worth mentioning. I have nursed it not because it has been troublesome but because I feared it would be— Thanks for your pens—

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #66

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #66

C To Channing]?

Boston July 5?
n.d.

Dear Sir

I enclose Kingsbury's prayers - will you mark whatever you wish to have transcribed & I will have them copied for you - I presume you have seen Taylor's prayers, there is much written that is valuable - notwithstanding the strange doctrine of the Trinity is too much introduced

Yr truly & Obt Servt

On this day – G's infinite power seems to you – his infinite displeasure will be felt – G's aversion to all moral evil, sentiments &c is now indeed made known – Conscience teaches us G's knowledge, purity, guilt ~~&~~ calamity, teaches us – Experience & History teaches us – ~~for~~ by ~~God~~ sober men all over the world, by scripture threatenings – by ~~&~~ miraculous judgments – The deluge, of water long, waste a world, the flood of fire on Sodom & Gomorrah, these are attests of G's abhorrence of sin – But ~~the~~ ~~&c~~ sin ~~the~~ former now turns – ~~the~~ men love not knowing G's feelings towards him – Herewith there will be a solemn manifestation of G's eternal anger ~~against~~ displeasure against the wicked – ~~he will be felt~~ The offended ~~sinner~~ will not be able to escape from the fist of his great being – & his wrath displeasure will be seen more clearly ~~&~~ than the wicked G a fellow creature are seen here – G's righteous feelings ~~&~~ made known – It is hard now to conceive of the dreadful effect the mind will have of G – when here seen, viewed, will be feeling of his wrath –

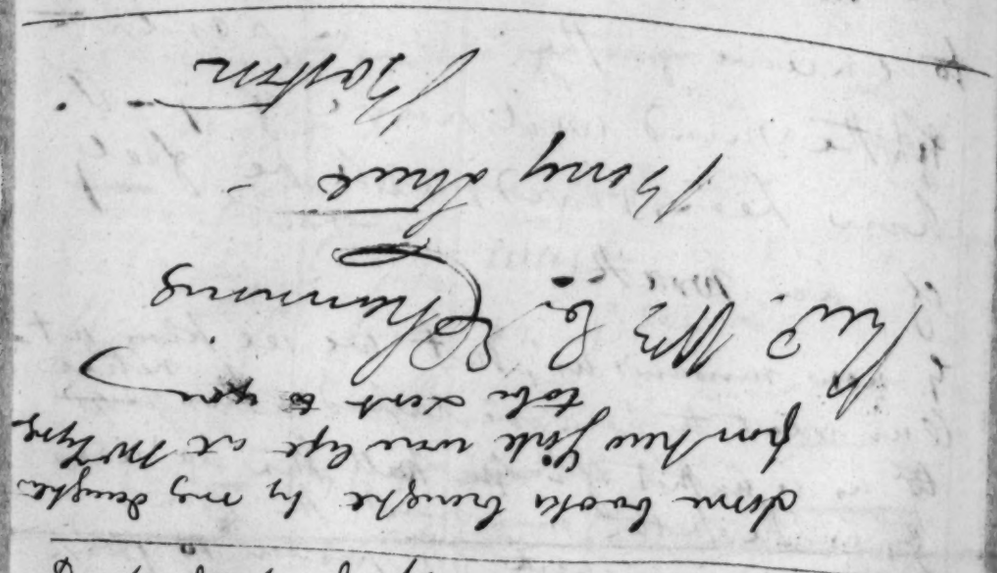
G now surrounds us, but we see him not – Our relation to him overlooked – ~~&~~ this neither ~~of~~ as to matters of – ~~he~~ will then he seen by us – The hottest man must be think of him – Who can resist G's power to flash on the mind the conviction of ~~their~~ his presence – to take possession of the whole soul – to give the sense a distinct, overwhelming sense of his displeasure at sin –

The behavior of G with those as the sun is to a ~~blind~~ blind man

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #67

which the guilty will seek a
dense mantle to hide him—

Having laid aside the gross body, & escaped
the clouds of this world, the spiritual
presence dies nothing—



Deep deep displeasure will be seen—
it will be seen lowering—the eye which they
dread will be seen to read them into
deep abhorrence—a searching eye will
be felt, an eye of just indignation—

n.d.c

Dr C. The number of children in the United States & Territories, exclusive of N. England & N York (whites) between 5 & 15 years of age is estimated by Mr W. and by the tables, if corrected, at 1,847,796. The round number of 1,840,000 was used for convenience & to avoid exaggeration.

W. a.a.

613,333
2
1,226,666

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #68

Note to Dr. C.

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #68

n.d.c

In the volume of the Annals page 935 you will find an account of the comparative state of instruction in Europe & our country, & also a note of some of our states. I also have a proof sheet of the first article for No. completing the view of our population.

W.E.C.

Congress Yours &c

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #68

n.d.
C

Dear Sir

I am sorry that that you & Mrs Channing are prevented from coming this morning, but the night is good until after 4 o'clock & I shall be most happy to see you this afternoon.

very truly
yours Elisa Eliot

We ought to persuade ourselves -
That it not make our happiness - ultimate -
Aught in an end by its nature -
We never feel satisfied

W. E. Channing

C

Dear Sir

Having been pre-
vented in the early part
of the winter from offering
our Child for baptism,
by his sudden & severe
indisposition, it was our
intention to have performed
this duty as soon as the
weather should be so good,
as to make it safe to take
him to Church —

You intended departure
however before this opportunity
by has been offered to us
leads us to ask of you
if your convenience should
permit it, to baptize our
Child at home.

If circumstances permit

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #70

you to gratify us in this particular, you will have the goodness to name the hour most agreable to you. We will make the necessary arrangements

I am very respectfully
Yr. obt. Servt
S. Cabot

Quincy Place
Monday. Eve'g

C

Dear William

The singing School will close on Saturday evening as several of our usual singers are dropping off - it is all important that we have immediate recruits - our singing seats will not accommodate a large number - but you can say there is room for Eight or Ten, we ought at least to have four female singers, Mr Bailey can name 8 or 10 for the first term of 3 or 6 months, then others can take their places, at all events those whom he shall designate ought to appear certainly in the seats next sunday — if nothing is done on Saturday evening the whole benefit of the school will be lost — I have requested Mr Wainwright to

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #71

Print the great reason of
appeals to be judge
is not pleasing set forth —
the scriptures — I designs by
this ordinance to
impress more deeply upon
during the probation on earth the
the greatness of his work & the
importance of his mission
religion —
& exalt him to be judge of
quick & dead, against & against, of
the whole world, & has declared
during his absence & as his first great
work to open
heavenly & authoritatively held
forth & manifested by the
only religion by which all men
hereafter & future world
will be acquainted —
alone, all who hear it, are to
be tried — The exaltation of
J is the exaltation of his
gospel to the throne

& dost seat of J is the most
impressive declaration that
there is to come
happiness, with us conformity to the
precepts & spirit of J — that
the spirit of
is to triumph, to be vindicated,
to be rewarded with everlasting
of return — & that
of fidelity & be plunged into
hell —

Jesus by Channing

Jesus only —

One — 37 do —

one Ch. do — Channing

one — Dawson Moses

one by way of charity — Jesus

Mormons —

Christ — Jesus was the
the Christians, Catholic Church Mormons
Christ

We can see advantages in a double
there seems a need of a double
judge - we We can see that in
a human mind to produce
divine strength - an the
intelligent & moral being, to
manifest the mind of God to
the universe. the God has
some great finite part & ver-
-able representative of God -

encircled
bright, radiant, With divine splendor
& distinguished by divine love -

[Ruth Gibbs Channing]

n.d. c

Tuesday night

My dear husband We are all well & in the midst of preparation. Mother decides if the weather is good to go in town to morrow that I think it doubtful if we leave here before Friday. I enclose - Crandalls memorandum of freight he is to leave first wind - we have had a summers rain ~~Today~~ Mother wishes a ton of Carrots —

I have scarcely a hope of leaving here on Thursday for Mother feels she should be hurried to do it - we were certain of going when we concluded John should go to morrow but it will be useful to him to gain a little insight of our establishment in the most quiet manner -

Mother rec'd a letter from Rose & the mail I hope has one for me to night — enjoy your quiet & liberty for I hope soon to dispel such dreams Good night — I have only time for love to you - Your affectionate wife -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #72

which were for
the most part
felt to connect
& to endear all
ever for what they
deemed duty we
cannot too highly
venerate — Their
energy of principle
makes us proud
of a common nature
the greatness, notwithstanding
the faults & passions,
& beyond this, & the
unassailable attitude
with which it were
accompanied — But

the view of the subject you
did demand more or up to
the children especially attend
circumstances of [illegible]
seem as the same, we can-
not doubt — & merely to say
that, to suspect that the
N. G. character in part
originated
some how manifested merely

January 9 1838

by the inexperience, the [illegible]
the ungraciousness,
the want of sympathy & the
selfishness, the [illegible]
vanity of to which it was entitled
by the descent — She travelled
Me
changed of want
& want of heart,
& of manner — Love subdued
She was
to may her

not been wholly or most grounded
& the flood & undoubtedly the
receipt of tariff imposed
on the western people by a
stubborn soil, & the want
of many natural aids, has
done much to encourage
confirmed habits in
them the changes suppose
have never with in my
respect mere
been wholly [illegible] merely

n.d
c

My dear Wm —

I am sorry to hear of Ruth fall, and very glad to find the symptoms no ill effects from it. — Should more pain exist or arise I should not hesitate to advise bleeding, & afterwards opium or Hyoscyamus enough to quiet her, — I think at all events it will be highly proper to keep her bowels open by Rochelle Salts or similar cooling purgative. The quantity need not be small, not enough to excite the bowels much but enough to evacuate them & contents. Should they become costive

Yrs Walter —

How human nature ... [illegible]
What new light shown on this knowledge by
him -
What resume of life -
how we pass to another world -
We learn from him on high relation to
ch'y, union, future ages -
What prospects of heaven do
What dignity round ... him opened -
refined -
Brought ... humanity future events
of song -
& filled to the vast capacity of human mind,
its boundless ...
... of ... ment character
... & pledge
human ... future
He gives a new character to life - earth
a ... ground
We are carried ... of ordinary scene to a
new history -
He is ... -
He is resurrection & life -
we shall see him -
Lindsey -

- friend in heaven - entitled -
he seems to belong to another world -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #73

9 a peculiar comforter - adapted to [illegible]
in a suffering race -
To whom shall we go but to 9 in
in sorrow -

Silence but from here can we know why
sorrow & wh what tears borne -
Will you go to the Human teacher
who Human of see no tears pres -
Who can [illegible] 9 interpreter - see
him in pain -
How heavenly bitter is 9 to a sorrowing world
how soft her accents - Newton -
We need symph -

How settled to a wanton -

n.d.
C

Dear Wm. I have examined Cully, I do not find any evidence of important disease within the Chest, or of wandering. He is depressed in spirits which are ascribed to ill health. His appetite is opressive and I have and doubt he suffers from over eating. I have advised him to go into the country among his friends, to live much in the open air, and to eat less. He will be benefitted by the occasional use of some laxative pill. Anderson's Pills will answer. I have written for some pills for his cough. —

Wellanning.

I have given him a recipe, and full directions. You had better read them, and see if they be clear. —

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 74

My dft - the virtue of mankd - the removal
of moral evils -
Thus dty, as involvg this -
Thus, the great question? Is dty supreme power of
virtue -
Is any thing gained wh a man is made
a sr - placed under influence of dft -
Xty - the fountain - to make Xns know the
the great good -
Make strength of mind stand to enable Xn
Make strength & use the stand to enable Xn
virtue in mr our a other Xians - bend to
y a man -
habit tone of energy -

Gvernmt, heroism what dt -

To remove moral evil appears
Wt evil wd seem so great - It
ch other -

South Street Aug. 7.

n.d.
c

Dear Sir.

Mr. Fisk (a Unitarian) an English Gentleman in. Stand son of the late Dr Priestley. expresses a wish to be introduced to you — Mr F. has letters from Sir J. E. Smith and other respectable people — He proposes to give lectures on Geology — in this city as he has done in Philadelphia & N York —

Yours respectfully
& with great respect
J Davis

P.S. I have mentioned the proposed meeting of the Committee. This Evening to Mr Barnard. who will notify the other Gentlemen

to hereby to vindicate us -
There no penalty to visit on us - no side - nothing to stand between us & judge - no opposite claim - In future world, our knowledge, we shall be laid open, & keen intuitive moral character -

Principles of judgment not technical - the spirit the thing - character character the guide -

Who -
When -
by whom -
according to what principles

Public judgt -
not silent nor to return -
Hearts revealed -
Xt ashamed before angels -
Sentiments of judgt -
Separate between good & evil - good clings to Xt - Evil shrinks from him -
The heart the thing tried -

Revealed to others - object - what an individl is many connd -
Soul as manifest as body -
"Each individl rewarded in himself"
The future state a public one -
Secrets of all hearts laid open -
All will see us as we are -
Keen moral judgt -

Discovery of Duty
Gr intimate moral connexn
Discovered -

Mind not turned away from duty -
Nothg to screen us
Outward circumstances avail nothg -
Darkness lost from light -
Vain last allegiance -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 75

13th Dec.

Dear Sir

President Adams is to dine with my family on Friday at ¼ after two. I should be very glad if you could be one of the half dozen whom I invite. Doctor Freeman and Mr. Quincy and Judge Parker and Wild are to be with us.

Yours with affectionate respect

T. Dawes

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 76

Is there not a power & wisdom & kindness
one in a changes - the of changes,
vicissitude in human affairs -

Nations are benefited by change - It
is not for the benefit of men, that same
conduct shd continue -
The mind is rendered stupid by long
continuance of same scenes -
All nature is adapted to this state
of mind -
Wonder how do we gain knowledge - by
observing same - phenomena & company -
Memory Taste Genius

n.d.

Dr ~~[illegible]~~

Will you meet

Dr Freeman & Dr Kirkland

a Thursday next at Dinner.

You will find a male

party. yours truly

R. C. Derby

11 ~~Thurs at~~ 4

Mr Channing

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 77

act of power did not reveal
Moral character from him into
Intellect, from Deity to Intelligence.
But G, as we have said, acts by
Means - Nature is only a Subject of
Means - & Revelation to the Understanding
of Nature - Besides it does not see
as of in Training & Governing
rational Intelligent & accountable
& free beings, the use of force,
of Constraint, of a resistless agency,
would wholly defeat the great
end of G, which is the production of
a virtue which will be the proper
Object of Love & praise - G therefore
reflects the Nature which he has
given in the Treatment of such
Her Dominion governing Love her creatures
& Truth & Holiness only, Have many
Methods suited to a thinking Spiritual,
& accountable creature
Light, Truth, Promises, Aids
which encourage not imposed

all Powers, affections
& Powers of G's Mind to the Love
& Contemplation of the Universe, & the
Subserviency & Design to which
Harmony the means plainly suited to
the Nature of Man - & these means
& Ends are wonderfully combined
in the Work of Redemption by Jesus
To save us - G sent his Son not
own Son - when he saw needed
for by the Fall Sinners, but delivered
him up for us all - & a more glorious
Way by made known his infinite
Love of G concern for our salvation -
for He whom he has sent to die
and Rolds the highest Place in the
Universe, in subordination to the universal
G - & to His Love & complacency
& the highest of his glory & these
first Duty he most illustrious im-
age - & G has first shown not
only that to G sends his Son
such a Deliverer, G has given his pledge
of a glorious Deliverance - He sends his
Son to assume our nature, G has

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 77

of her means of her love in the
means he has used - of ~~always~~ to
act by means, & ~~always chooses~~ ea
means ~~adapted to the end~~ & in
discovers what
selecting & ~~adopting~~ those her wisdom
& ~~goodness~~ benevolence - (for the ~~universe~~ one to
Now the ~~end~~ of ~~punishment~~ was determine
~~to reform~~ what adequate means were not
of ~~punishment~~ for sin & death, & the) but
~~the~~ bound in or ~~of these~~
power & ~~intelligence~~ the ~~constitution~~ of nature, there no
means were to be found for recovery
men from sin & death, for bringing them
to perfect, & immortal life - ~~else~~ The ~~end~~
creator could no remedy for the decay
of the soul, which has arisen from sin, &
become the worst evil of the creature,
& drawn down punishment. The ~~end~~
of nature brings suffering on crime - &
by to supply the deficiencies of na-
ture has sent her son to accom-
plish a deliverance ~~to~~ which ~~we~~ by
is indignation - Some may ask
why the method was required -
why ~~he~~ by an immediate

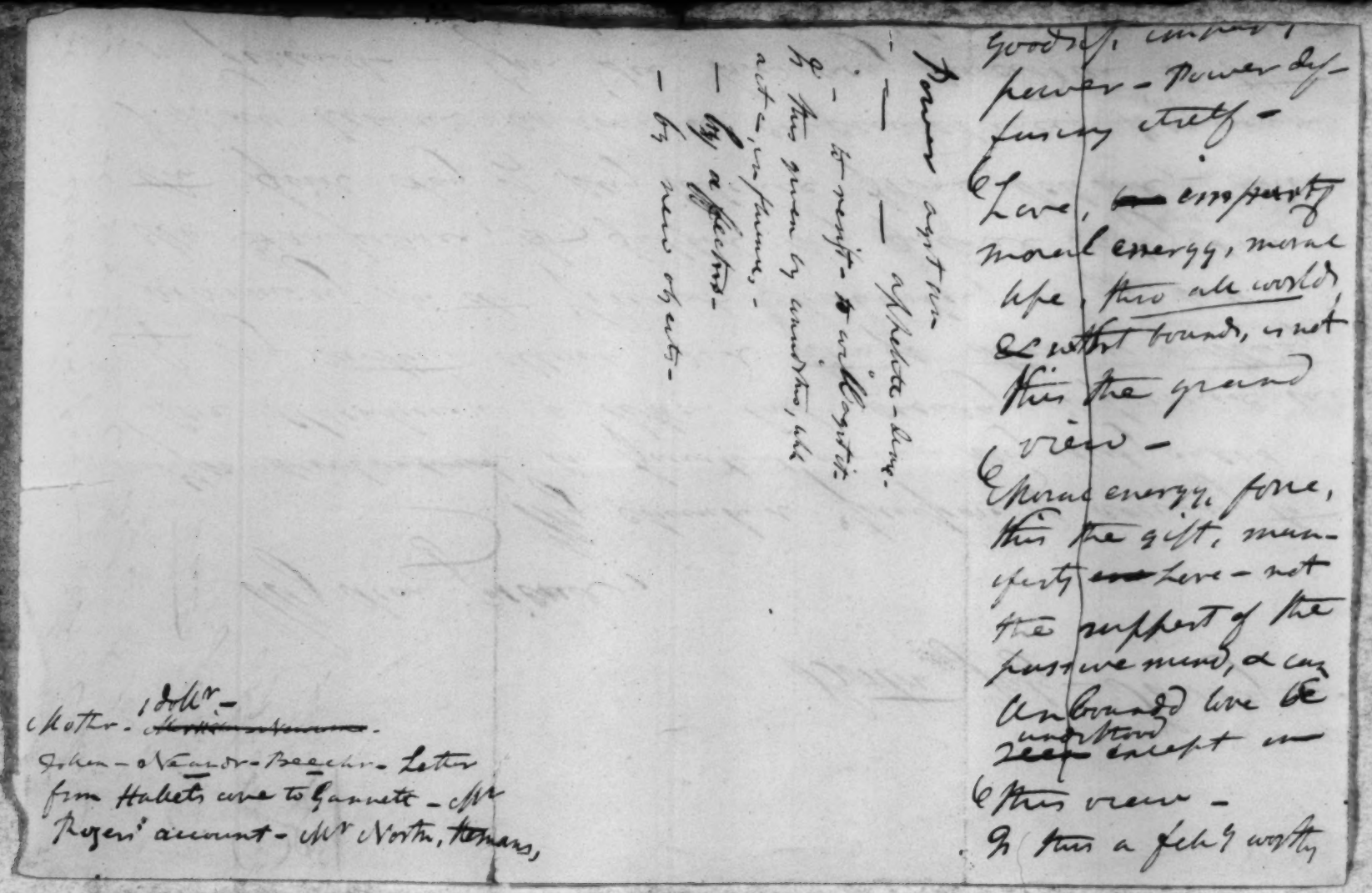
William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 77

Boston July — Tuesday —

My dear Gilman,

My cherished purpose of coming to
Your next week is frustrated: — My duty calls
me elsewhere — a letter last evening informed me
of my mother's illness, and though there is nothing
alarming in its present character, I go into
New Hampshire, to fulfil my filial obligations
the first day of my release from school, — there
I shall remain as long as circumstances require
me to remain — You see how very uncertain is the

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date: # 78



Goods of condition
power - Power of
fancy etc. -

Love, — energy
moral energy, moral
life, thro all world
& without bound, is not
this the grand
view -

Moral energy, force,
this the gift, mas-
tery — love - not
the support of the
passive mind, & can
unbounded love be
understood except in
this view -

Is this a subj worthy

Power agitates
— — — exhilarates - elevates -
— — strengthens & enlightens
& thus saves by conducting to
action, confirmation, -
— by reflection -
— by new objects -

Mother - 1 dollr -
Johnson - Alexander - Beecher - Letter
from Hubbets cure to Garnett - Mr
Rogers' account - Mr North, Thomas,

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date [illegible]# 78

moral love, power, & sentiment development -

In this [illegible] most dear as source of enjoyment - of as a moral object, a point of moral life - as finding time to [illegible] the

In the want of sentiment development, moral perfection, unbounded goodness, what opens our eyes & hearts to unbounded goodness in G -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 78

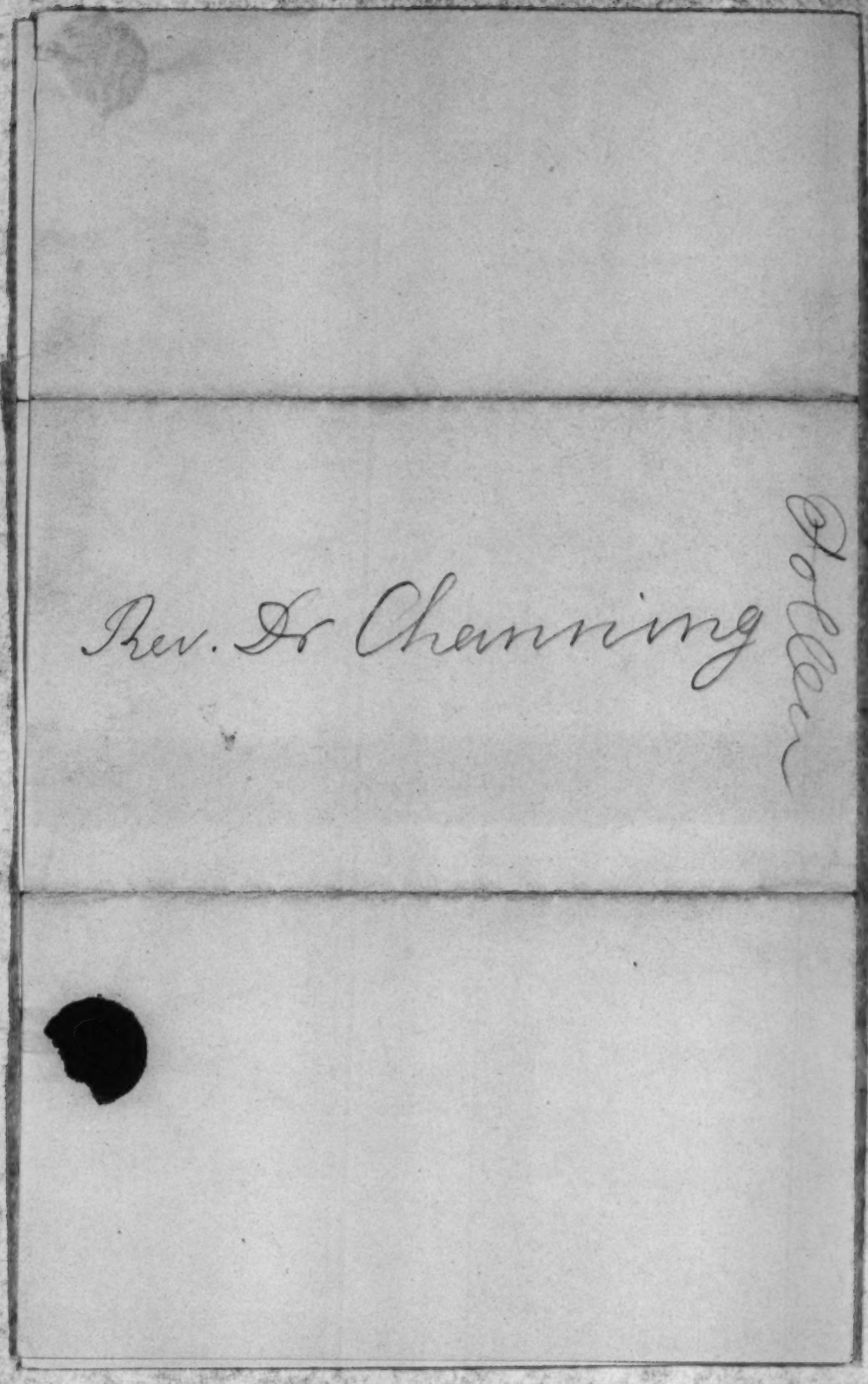
William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 78

Dear Sir,

I have a discourse that I have not preached at your church; and I will do the best I can if you do not think it safe for yourself to speak; though I cannot but feel that it will be a great disappointment to the people.

Yours very Truly
C. Follen

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #79



William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #.79

My dear Sir, Mr William Logan Fisher
of Germantown is desirous of calling
on you - He is an acquaintance & friend
of Dr Tuckerman & altho' I do
not know him personally yet I have
heard such accts of him as make me
very desirous you should see him -
He has requested me, this & a friend
him to call on you this P.M. which I
shall do with pleasure, provided you
are well enough to see us & are not
engaged Very truly & respectfully
Yrs W. H Furness

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #80

I see a man vexed under a burden of wants, anxiety, & long for aid - I hear him say "No one has taught me" -

At this moment how many human souls are deeply moved by Xt - the love to him - the divine Xt alone dwelt in this has flowed from him, the head, into the body of his disciples -

What a glory - what a reward -

How he rejoices now on his cross, when he sees thousands thro this energy of self-denial & virtue to devine virtue -

The power of awaking virtue - this the great glory in universe -

You both formed to splendid powers of & his disciples & radiant with &c - Xt at head of innumerable host of redeemed -

I want a poor sick hut - & see a suffering fellow creature to ask pardon - comforted - She says, Ask Xt the only God for him - but thy will be done - I see a ray gleaming thro tears - there is Xt to me a mighty power in Xt - Ch the love of virtue -

The meanness of true virtue, its efforts to awaken other souls - Xt fired by this -

What need to devine efficacy in an example. Perfect simplicity - single eye. Human motive. At same time - Triumph of moral principle over all feelings -

What a mission a good man is sent on - The Almighty king send him forth a representative, delegate, the shrine of his own Spirit - No angel can come & nobler -

How we undervalue true influence - We prefer official to personal -

Xt only an example! What more can any being be - & himself -

The deeper efficacy of sublime virtue -

Good example -

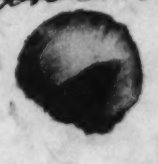
Virtue in an indevid is the ft of tales
dealing in Human form -

Ye are ye temple - ft is enshrined
divinity enthroned -

Power of good -

Is it greater or less than of evil -

What moves on them



William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #80

THERE IS NO "NO DATE. #81." THIS ITEM HAS BEEN CORRECTLY DATED FROM INTERNAL EVIDENCE AND PLACED IN THE CHRONOLOGICAL FILE OF WILLIAM ELLERY CHANNING CORRESPONDENCE.

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #81

N.D.

Rec'd D. Sir

your Commission will be executed this day. Let no expence shall forward all Dues by private Conveyance & just the invoice is sent. they are marked & Numbered

I wrote carelessly 20 [illegible] as Dr Ware told me the Cost was 23 Cents

Yours Sincerely W. Higginson Jr

I hope you read Dr Dana's atonement

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #82

There is a peace, flowing from G.
of which we can conceive,
a harmony, resonant of the
soul, with truth, & with all
things. The character of the present
state is that of relapse - The
barrenness is not on us as with
the love - The seasons are changed -
The elents are disturbed -
And the soul corresponds to them
in a great degree

the minute for Sunday -
4 hrs 5 eve -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #82

1. Trustees to be chosen for five years - one third to be vacated each year, by lot to be filled by election of body at annual meetg -

2 The Trustees may at ~~their~~ a committee of two chosen by the corporate from the whole number to be a board of Directors &c -

Rev.. Dr.. Channing

3 duties of Boston Directors -

4. Faculty - President to preside at public examinations - lower entrance -

Anna Jamieson

My dear Dr Channing

may I call you to mind
sweet that after having
heard you this morning
I may without presumption
address you, think of you
as my teacher, guide &
friend. — it would be
principal pleasure to leave
Boston without seeing
you one more. & I
write to ask when

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #83

I may be permitted
to call upon you with
the hope of spending
an hour by your side
— tomorrow I have
only two hours — from
4 to 6 this disengaged
but Saturday if the
afternoon should be
inconvenient I will
stay over Tuesday

& wait upon you at
any hour on that day
you will have the
goodness to appoint —
with deepest respect
most truly yours
Anna Jameson.

Sunday

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #83

Horace Mann n.d.

Rev. Wm. E. Channing

Dr. Sir,

The day of the simultaneous Temperance Meeting is the last Tuesday, (the 28th) of this month.

When I communicated to the Committee of the Mass. Temperance Society, your fears, that the state of your health might deprive the public of the advantage of your discourse, they expressed the most sincere regrets.

Both for your own, & for the sake of the public, I hope

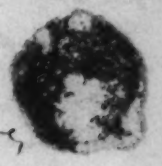
William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #84

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #84

by ask ~~Lebens~~ - but it is very honble
to you at this th a belief in certa
principles a manner of divine
administration, w - perhaps, by manner,
~~influence~~, as to make the good God.
the most repulsive beings in the
Universe - The false honorable may
deceive - a whole system - and a pure
& ~~his~~ imperious bitter, & a false
& may be adored, & ~~and~~ a
perfect of ~~a~~ ~~valuable~~ just and
the chief traits of religion, may cut
the root of a deadly superstition -
X & had not been wholly lost in
the darkest ages of the church
Natural sciences were revolted
against the whole trust-
amidst the world powers of the church
pope substituted for ~~Heathen~~ worship,
per learn still insisted - the ~~worship~~
worthy of worship in spirit & truth -
The pope, whilst he put himself in the
neck of kings, still walked the feet
of beggars & taught that the truly
glory of a servant in servus not in domin-
The great element of Religion have al-
ways been present, nor have they been
wholly upheld - Church & clergy -

Thursday P.M.

You may assure your
friends, I do all I can
by the feeble means
I have, to counteract
your unfounded

It is not enough that a great
work be acknowledged - that it
may do ~~much~~ great work its
power, it must be held by

unmixed - It is very possible to con-
nect with it false notions which go
far to neutralize it - Men G's
Omnipresence as a ground & motive
of exertion - humility of religion - that

Rev. Wm E. Channing

61 Mount Vernon St

It is very possible to [illegible] hold

it to consider G as in his ~~[illegible]~~ present
in the ~~[illegible]~~ extraordinary acts;
~~out~~ in certain consequential laws,

that this general doctrine will
become latent more & more - so
G's goodness & ~~[illegible]~~ answered

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #84

n.d.

Dear Jim.

W Brudditch goes to New
York tomorrow morning

very respy.
yrs truly
W. Ware

Friday 6 June

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #85

of that is un-
pursued by
being contented in
~~those~~ unintel
of part - what ch
can we expect of the
young, & of the labour
& classes, who have
formed no habits of
intellectual part, that
~~neither~~ they can give
a Note, 1 to
a whole day, to any
subject, that
ever so un

Writing - Of all subjects to,
~~subordinate~~ religion is the
least to be made the
direct ~~one~~ theme
~~two~~ pursued
object of ~~discourse~~ med-
itation - ~~for~~ ~~for~~ We believe,
that ~~some~~ ~~country~~ the
religious instruct of
this day should be

The Lord's day came to
a man's spiritual
powers, must almost
reason — for no man
can spend a day in
Rev. Dr. Channing
meditation, reading, prayer,
~~but one to the next subject~~
Even men, accustomed to
intellectual labor, in
those studies with
reason — ~~which they~~
~~do~~
~~as they have~~ [illegible]
~~the~~ Virgin [illegible]

n.d.

of a universe one.
To see of in universe, great duty -
Even, thing can hurt a good to be
viewed as from hyp of an ex[illegible] of hum-
Cambridge March 11th
Mrs consonant of of art all good the means
of devotion.

My dear Sir

I have invited Mr Ch
Ware and Mr Walker who with myself
are the standing committee for superintend-
ing the Examinees to meet at my house
next Thursday, about ½ past 10 o'clock;
and to dine at 3. Will you give us
your assistance and the pleasure of your
company at the meeting; or if not before
will you join us at dinner?

faithfulness - means duration. Yours sincerely

Andrews Norton

Mein do 10 pm door of, remain with Beaumont and
Fletcher alone - Mem the Master cake - To so no good Fletcher alone
of Mem - Fletcher & the Jew with a Jest alone
of [illegible]

Of a man, not his wealth,
who is worthy of regard - Let him
not be hidden -

We want men to feel that
there is something within him
worth more than his money - The
multitude do not know - do
not know that they own any thing
more precious than gold or silver -
Thus, meanness the work of time -
The only worthy quest is what is a man
worth -

Wealth is known - but whence does
it become efficient - Into the
mind - It is power of spirit which
makes it self respecting - Thus
the true fountain Love thus. Hope
wealth is ineffectual - Wealth of
states cannot heal sickness, mental
to poor - Soul is able in all -
Watch over thine -

We were made for activity
rather than to get money.
We do infinite dishonor to
our minds & life to suppose
that we have no higher
work, than to amass dust.
Life may be turned to better
account - We may become what
is more precious than wealth.

One generous act is worth more
than wealth.

The mind had [illegible] by which it might act
& be prepared to [illegible] duty freely.

+ What we want is to seek ourselves
above wealth - to use it as a
means not its slaves - to respect
a mind more than property.

We are not to look at the last thing -
not an end - not happy - but
a means.

Wealth to be sought with reference to higher nature - The motive decides all.

Cambridge Sunday morn.

My dear Sir

I received the inclosed in a small packet from Mrs J. Baillie last evening. In regard to sending it unsealed, she says, 'This perhaps is over cautious in me, but I stand in awe of the Post Office'.

I have within a day or two had the pleasure of hearing that Mr Newell will probably receive a nearly or quite unanimous invitation to settle in this place.

Yours very sincerely

Andrews Norton.

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #87

Rev. Mr. Channing

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #87

C

My dear Sir

I have since dinner been looking through the volume of Schleiermacher On Religion. His system is undisguised Pantheism, expressly denying a personal God and personal immortality. He pronounces a very high and unqualified eulogy on Spinoza, whom he declares to have been "full of religion and full of the holy Spirit", and to "stand alone and unapproached, a Master in his art."

Schleiermacher expresses his opinions with such openness, that as they are at the same time fundamental in his system, I do not comprehend how anyone can imagine them to be different from what I have stated.

I inclose the translation of a few passages. I have merely turned over the leaves of the book, reading here and there, assisted by Mr Gottingham's marks and references. I should like the translation again when you have done with it.

Very truly yours

Andrews Norton

Friday afternoon.

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #88

Rev. Dr. Channing

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #88

n.d.

Cambridge Thursday

My dear Sir

I send a volume for you, which came in a packet from my friend Miss Park, received since my compliment.

very sincerely Dear Sir yours

Andrews Norton

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #89

That man lives in world of
mark.
It. At sees all around him a moral-
world but an empire of mind -
without
That sees material earthly things -
Man, intellect[l] beings, related to an-
other world -
That looks on himself as an earthly
being -
Man, as spiritual, capable of love -
To this, the soul comes out -
To that, it is hidden and body -
To that, nothing but the present -
To this, the present a gemmery -
To this G. F. of spirits &c
To this, his value is of body -
This stamp of him as one with God,
an infinite fount of & his own virtue -
Not looks for earthly good -

This knows what he means be - has an
idea of high state of soul -

Spent 1 sunday -
contrast with Friends
Intellectual & moral nature the
great power dpt to the mind -

Patrick Mulligan
James Boot - Parker -
B Watkins - Binney -
Howard - Wellington
Mr. Mr. Channing
Mrs. Peabody

c

My dear Sir,

Will you do us the favor to take a family dinner with us to-day at quarter past two? We shall be gratified, if you will come

Yours respectfully
F. Parkman

Tuesday
Mar. 3.

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #90

We know G in knowing his works, what he does, thinks of, purposes, feels, how he regards his creatures &c -

The more enlarged our views of G's perfections, of the beings he forms, of his affections towards them &c

His F - seeks just desires & loves them, - all beings - thus desires is Love - This character involves ours -

Its relation to the soul - his care over it - his desire of its perfection, glorious views of G -

There involves love to moral purity, for this is what he aims at in ~~creatures~~ our souls -

The F of all Spirits, guards all to moral purity, moral government, inspirer, judge, - thus his glory -

Goodness has reference to creatures, beings - so have all moral perfections, - The greatness of these is seen in as G's benevolence & moral relation to all beings -

G in calling us & enabling & aiding us to move & love, to love of himself as moral F & LD, & to participate of his Spirit, manifests his moral & God love & his relation to universe -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #90

Prof of affection prevents sympathy with others —

Ly regard to in ref to mind — other systems such as here and state of external nature &c —

New attach given to that of G —

Sought here like poetry — selected by taste — left room feelings in reader to —

Reader first.

Ascendency mother —

Rec. Com. & Commune

mere abstraction of mind in pursuit with the present — is to be only source of pleasure how many recollects, or tied scenes to counteract —

Dramatick sympathy in reading Scripture —

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #90

May 29.

Dear Sir, Please notice from your Pulpit, that the Anniversary of "Mass: Bible society" will be held on Thursday next at Channey Place, 11 o'clock, when a sermon will be preached & collection made for the funds &c.

H. Parkman. C. Sec.?

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #91

We call J Xt — our — not
that he is such K — S —
or gives any thing but for
J —

We speak of his entire — not
that he wholly a reluctant
being, —

The great end of — such beings
love, the Xy is a scheme of love
If asked why such a scheme
formed — I shd say — that
it calls forth love —

It appeals to our hearts — is
suited to us —

Xts sufferings are a mode of redeem
because they manifest love
the ~~constitution~~ glory —

The true end to fill us with
excellent affects — to unite
us strongly to G — to Xt — to mankind
& to work from the world —

The religion of remedy most desirable —

Benev — all in all —

n.d. Francis Parkman, 1788-1852

Dear Sir,

I cannot remember to whom I have lent the Life of Fenelon, and therefore cannot promise, when it shall be sent to you. But possibly the Life of Leighton, which accompanies this, and abounds with spiritual & consolatory reflexions, will be read with pleasure by the person you mention.

Mr. Palfrey had requested me to prepare some notice of Count Stolberg's Conversion for the Examiner. It would admit certainly of a very full & interesting review. I could wish very much that you would undertake it for the next number. It would confer a great favor; and as you are reading the work, perhaps you would not

not find it inconvenient or burdensome to take such notice of it, as you would make a Citizen's article for the Review.

I am, dear Sir
Yours very respectfully
J. Parkman

Thursday
Feb

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #92

Do not all possible to them unfold, take the form of warm Desire of knowledge — Ambition the wish where mind has been touched by nature's beauty Even a [redacted] spot of it, & if Just up in a crowded city Every the most serious when nature great processes are going on, he sees as if on pinions, & flies and he may, and fly with the speed of the liberated bird — so it is with an effect — then do they burn for [redacted] — How dear [redacted] of the society of his friend — [redacted] even the present years for the presence of his child who absent, for its health & bright & beautiful smile, who is sick, for its

n.d.
C

My dear Sir, I think it must be Mr. Prince's turn. Mr. Gray preached last. -- I thank you for your enquiry, and my ~~the~~ wife & child are exceedingly well. Yours respectfully

W. Parkman.

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #93

Vestry - me -
sublime spirit -
What requisite
Catechising -
Books

Her cold gone -
We are lonely - We
learn that the spirit of
your friend gave all
the charm -

The sun shines - but it not
the beams which once shone on
us - The

Nature upon us is a new place to
us - The winds which once
animated us seem to be sighing over
us - The stillness which once calmed
us is an awful emblem of our desti-
tute -

How much do we live, when the
soul [illegible] is taken - when the countenance which
smiled on us is pale - when
the eye which welcomed us is closed -

[illegible] -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #93

n.d.
C

My dear Sir,

I regret that I am not able to give you the information request as respects the Engine or Roller - I have hitherto been but poorly off for Pears, and have only thought my brother got a good selection this year - but as they are but just now put in the ground, the cuttings are not in a state to put out. Other fruit - I shall however go to Brookline tomorrow and if my Gardner says they will answer I will bring you some of them & leave them or send them to you tomorrow Evening

With much respect
Yr Ob. Ser.
J H Perkins

Rev - Dr Channing

Love is not an accident but the proper habit of love - We were made for it -- It is not a transient feeling - but the very spirit we are to carry with us after death.

We were made for love - not more to breathe, to see, to act, than to love - not so much -- this is the very life of the soul for which we were created -

The whole conduct of the world shows that we were made to love. Love is not designed to supply defects of nature, but wants of soul - It is intended that our whole nature shd be called forth by & under love - Intellect - Imagination - Active powers - heart awakened but by love - Will finds its proper field -

Love is to be the habit of the mind - We are always connected with fellow beings, & to each shd be called forth benevolence - The design of religion is that a fellow creature shd have in what exercising good will to every man, shd excite emotions of kindness - This spirit is to be a habit, frame. We are never to be what it - Whatever we do shd have love mixed

Rev.d Wm. Ellery Channing —

Dear Sir, 4.

Mrs. Phillips says she only objection to the man, whom you mentioned to me, as the unfavorable of his manners, & service a good servants —

Yr. affectionately
J. P. Phillips

29. April —

to his cross, can remember that from the
beginning he foresaw the pain & humiliation
which awaited him, can sustain ~~that~~ his
unabated kindness towards those whose hands
were as he well knew were to be stained with
his blood, ~~recollect~~ who can contemplate ~~the form~~
~~freedom his willingness to suffer when suffer~~
~~might be averted, the cheerfulness & firmness~~
~~with which~~ he & can watch his constancy, meekness,
~~&~~ patience, ~~unending~~ love, forgiveness ~~suffering which he~~
~~had~~ [illegible] ~~the agonies of~~ his last pains,
pains ~~which he might~~ have escaped, &
which were inflicted, ~~from them~~ mixed with
every circumstance of ingratitude, malignity, & which he
had power ~~by a word to~~
to escape, & not feel
~~that~~ he gives a pattern of
divine benev, ~~&~~ do not
our hearts teach us does
not the commandment of such
love, so tried, bind us to
him — How delightful such
a character as Xt — how re-
freshing —

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 95

Dear Sir I inclose the extract to which you alluded -

With regard to the District laws the one I mentioned, which still remains in force in D.C. viz selling a man for his jail fees has been abolished in Maryland - The same suspected man is discharged in Maryland -

A free negro in Washington must give bonds for good behaviour -

In Maryland their orphans court is empowered to grant such an one freely a permit to remain within the State -

District of Col. is the general slave mart & gathers slaves from all the near states for sale -

In Maryland no one is permitted to bring

a slave into the state - (there are some exceptions) but this is the general rule - any one wishing to do so must apply specially to the Legislature -

What an advance on the legislation of the U.S.

I am sorry not to be able before you any further instances: but I cannot find any digest of the laws of the District, which renders the task of comparing its laws almost Herculean

Yours truly

W. Ellery

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #96

Rev Dr Channing

Mt Vernon

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #96

C

My dear Sir

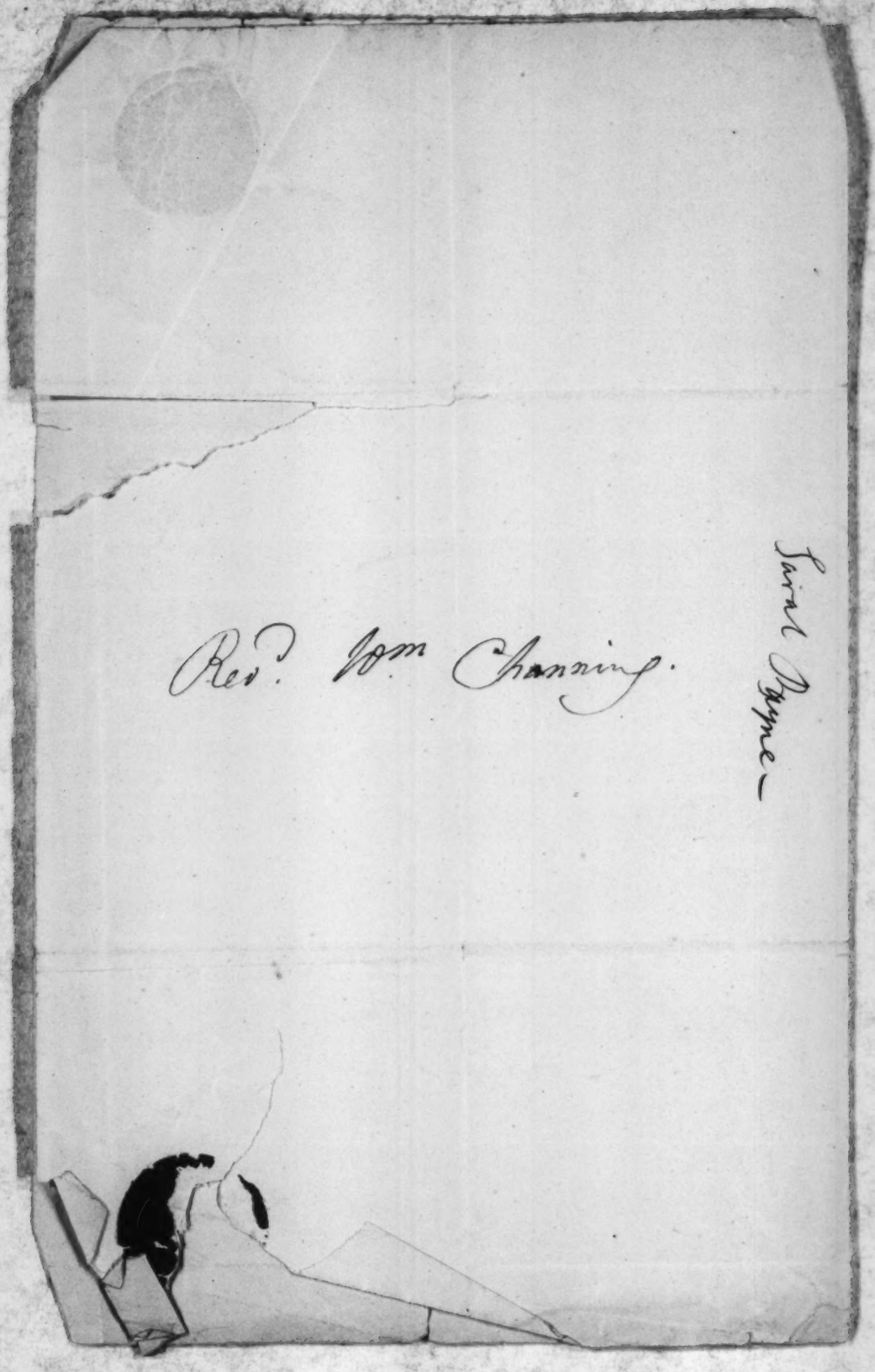
It is the desire of our daughter & is equally so of Mr Quincy & myself that she should be gratified in becoming a member of the Church under your care - & if you please we wish you to propose her - Her name is

Eliza, Susan Quincy.

yours affectionately

E. S. Quincy

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #97



William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #97

C

Rev. Dr Channing

My dear Sir

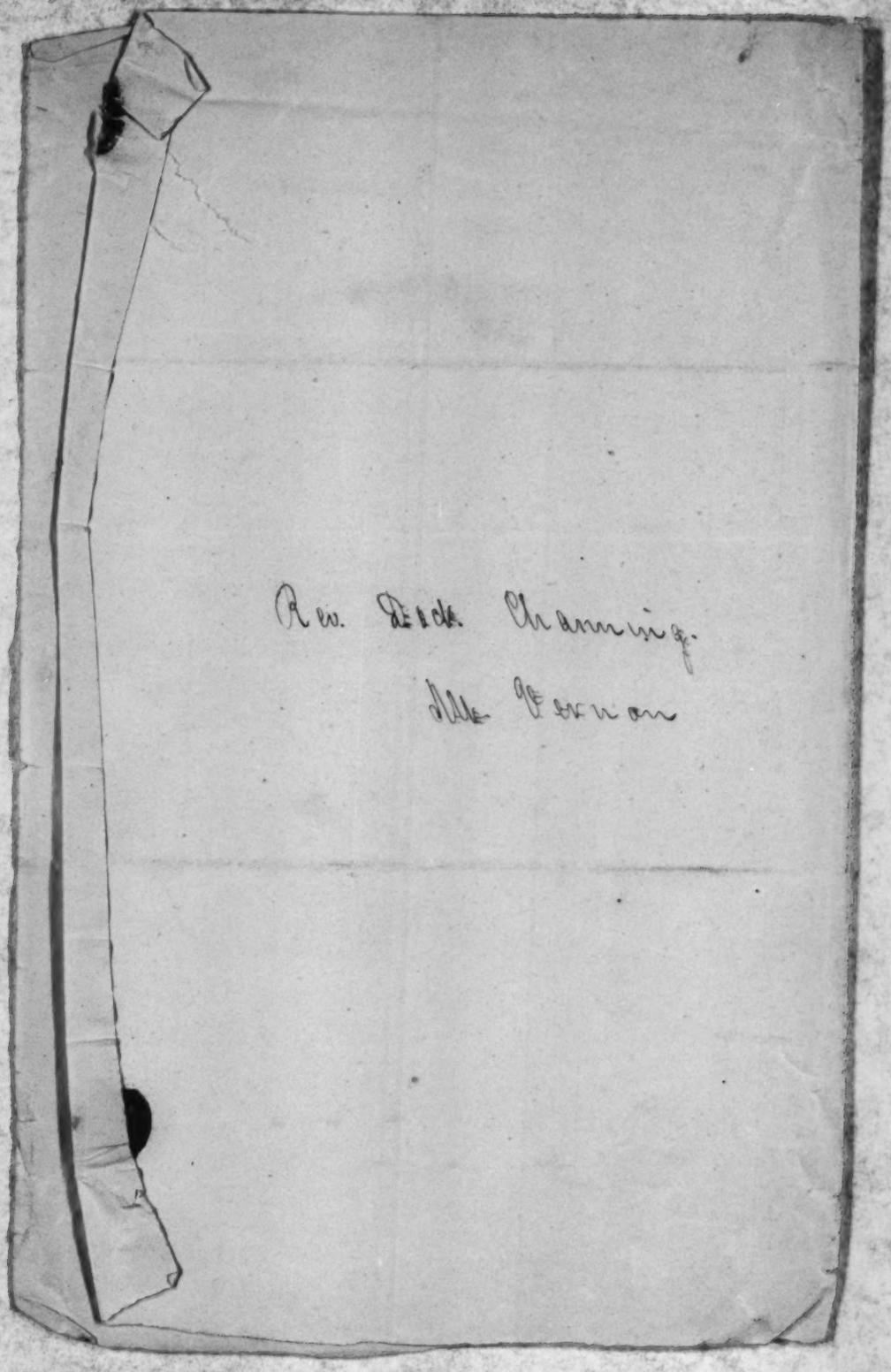
May I take the liberty to request you to favour me with the loan of "Mr Wainewright's Vindication of Politics" - for a short time. - Sincerely & very respectfully Yr ever obd Servt

W. Ellery Channing.

Bedford

Bedford Place
Monday Morn.

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #98



William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #98

n.d.
c

Dear Sir The Post has arrived from Newport & there are no letters for you. I give this Note to the Driver of the coach for tomorrow morning. Nothing interesting has occurred since you left us. With most affectionate regards to your family. I am very Truly yours — R Rogers

Jane cannot be as we
have supposed a
unpoetic character, a
determinate to see & each
people good, what they
are or not, a worthy
working at their faults
& sins. a feeling of
intellect, an earnest of
help, - heart is friendly
but as her pen well said
is no fool -
It is the virtue
of a clear intellect as
well as of a persevering
heart - It does not make
a imaginative woman cold
& poetic in act - but
it sees distinctly the
good. It really respects
delights to see & acknowledge - It has no talent
at invention or fine keenness
but it appreciates.

at Billings Hall
William G. Channing

Jackson to see good a
temptation to see evil are
a keen agent in nature -
to discern & see the
right, pursue each
of goodness, is first
one to the most
corrupt -
human does not
but down the finer
of morals & religion
to the mass of the
community, & praise
a rule of judging so
to lose that almost
all may conform
to it - Thus - It very
essence the love of ease
& home, a delight in
virtue, steady in high
virtue, & unconsciously a
despair to see & hear
it, wherever it is

appears -
I am aware how ~~is~~ so
much cant, even in the
world - a great deal not
a verbose, & the worse
& [illegible] of all - Men
are persons of easy things
with great as ~~illiberality~~
want of moral feeling -
~~If~~ ~~obtuse~~ of about common
& obtuse; who have no
sympathy with excellence,
& no thought for one,
& who speak of good &
bad in nearly the same
terms of praise, for
because they dare
libble dare or assume
better - ~~Everybody is~~
They have one kind
of ~~talent~~ or amiable,
or ~~friendly~~ or worthy
with they deal about
profanely - They are not
virtuous - for they have
not energy & moral
determination for praise -
Now this is not case
with me - Now I am and
& founded in respect
for piety & virtue,
& in strong desire for
its growth & diffusion -
& [illegible] its delight in
goodness, & this is an
love & homage to
person & - & for the
sake of [illegible] it
given it free & full
praise -

n.d.
C

Dear Sir

as you may not have seen the Sugar Cane of the West Indies in the State in which it is cut, I send you a small piece for your inspection. By cutting off the outside of the cane you will see that the pores are completly filled with Juice which is very agreeable to the taste. This piece, boiled, produces Sugar. Yours very respectfully

William Ropes

Rev^d Mr Channing

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #100

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #100

[illegible] of G- Moral & Spiritual -
How for Scripture to be literally received -
Spirit - Xts word -
Future words to be understood of mind - Sun &c - crown -
First dawn of the Spirit - of Xts Kingdom
How for N.T. to be understood Spiritually
He that believes in me shall not see death -
Heaven a Spiritual place - vestures - in Xts new

[illegible] life - [illegible] of
[illegible] is in Xt -
Now [illegible] may be [illegible]
in after life - faithfully [illegible]
It means - [illegible] in Xt -
It means eternal -
It may attempt be [illegible]

Rev^d Mr Channing —

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #100

Lucy C. Russell n.d. c

New York - July 13th

Dear William it is indeed an unusual thing for me to be able to thank you for two unanswered letters - one by Miss Minot and the other by Mr Sewall - If you could at all understand the delight your letters give me I am sure you would let me have them more frequently - but I am now looking forward to the still greater pleasure of seeing you - Your letter and Susans both agree that Father will not be in Newport so I have concluded to go to Boston, but I am not quite decided as to the time. William has a vacation in the month of August and it has been our wish that he should have not only relaxation but exercise and change of air, as he has been too much confined - his Father has some idea of taking a journey and if he does at that time will take him with him; but as it may not be convenient for him to accommodate himself to Wms time, I have concluded in that case to take him myself to Boston and if so I shall be there the first week in August - but shd he go with his Father I shall wait till the month of September, that is if you really made me the offer which Susan says you did (but which I never heard of) of waiting upon me home by the

way of Stockbridge — the last of Septr or beginning of October is the time I expect Anna to return and it is my wish to bring her myself - I shd not be willing to go there before that time, as she would not be satisfied to have me leave her and I wish her to remain till then. This will be a delightful season to journey and the pleasantest for you to visit the City - and if you think you would be able to do it at that time I wish you would write me so immediately, because I shall then make my arrangements accordingly - If I am obliged to come on with Wm I must of course sacrifice the pleasure of journeying with you as I shd have to return with him the last of August, that he might be ready for his school - I hope you will be able to understand the various ifs & ands upon which my movements depend - they are clear to me but I am not quite sure if I have made them so to you - you must tell me where I am to stay in Boston - Susan says you would like to have me stay with you & Mother and if it is convenient it would be very pleasant to me; for perhaps just now Mary would rather not have an addition to her family -

I hope you found your family all benefitted for their excursion - give my best love to them and kisses to your children - I congratulate you upon having your colleague settled and I hope he may prove a blessing to you as well as your people - I was quite disappointed in neither hearing or seeing Mr Sewall - he went directly on, which I think was hardly kind, as our little minister has so little aid - He still labours for us to the utmost and I hope not in vain; tho his want of manner will I fear even prevent his being a popular preacher - & this manner is every thing! I am afraid it would be in vain to preach with the wisdom of an angel without the voice of one was added to the gift -

Farewel dear Wm let me hear from you directly and even believe me most affectionately yours

Lucy C Ripley

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #101

Rev William E Channing

NEWPORT
JUL
14

Newport
R. Island

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #101

Sedgwick, H.D.

nd
c

Dr Sir,

We have been for a long time in a State of depression in regard to our religious Interests. This has been caused by a combination of circumstances many of which seem to be temporary - Several of the most active members of our Society have been absent, & the alarm in relation to the health of the City has prevented our receiving clerical aid from abroad. The time has at length arrived when according to appearances the pressure will be over, at least for the present, & we the advantage of the patient which has recently been exhibited on this subject, or make some decisive effort. We find that there are few people who will unite themselves from their present connections & unite with us unless there is a prospect of permanency in the new establishment: & we are satisfied that many will avoid themselves or our friends as soon as they can feel secure from the mortification of failure - We have therefore determined to make a final effort - At least twenty a few of us met at the Chapel & resolved to build a Church if the means can be obtained. For that purpose we have chosen a Committee to obtain subscriptions & to make contracts, & shall take the necessary legal steps

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #102

to become a corporate body. Our plan is humble & economical. Of the times are, to an unprecedented degree, favourable to us in that respect. Materials are so cheap & there can be many unemployed artisans, that those who have attended to the subject are perfectly convinced that a church of competent dimensions & convenient appearance can be contracted for for a sum not exceeding $17,000 besides the land which We hope to get on a long lease with the right of renewal as is customary here. We shall be contributors among ourselves about 1/3 of this sum & hope to be able to procure a loan for the residue for which We shall be willing to mortgage the building, in such manner as to give the proper security to those who may be induced to assist us - which We think will render the repayment certain - & We take the risk of losing all our contributions unless something shall remain for us after profusing the loan. I give You merely the outline of our plans as they will be explained more in detail by a letter written to some gentlemen in Boston which I presume will be submitted to You.

We have no prospect of being able to procure religious Services before the 1st of November or about that time - The present purpose of my letter is to state that We all think your aid is the highest degree important to us in the organization of our Society & We ask, mean that We ask a great deal - & no considerate person consulted to consider should indeed us to request so much exertion & effort on your part. It is unnecessary to state to You that We consider this subject as of the highest importance & congruent with the most extensive & lasting consequences. I have therefore been requested by the principal members of our party to solicit your aid for five or three Sabbaths during the present Autumn, if it be possible not later than the 1st of the next month. We feel sure that You will grant this request if You can & We cannot suppose the existence of any circumstances which ought to be obstacles in the way of such a design. As regard to your delivering sermons the full expression of our feelings on this subject & reasons for our importunity. What We most fear is that You will not deem a compliance with our request so important as We do. But Sir, You will consider that the desired effect is to be produced through the medium of opinion & sentiment & chiefly the opinions & sentiments of our friends, & whether our conviction of the importance of your aid be or be not erroneous in its conception, the effect to be produced by it will be or really can be equally important.

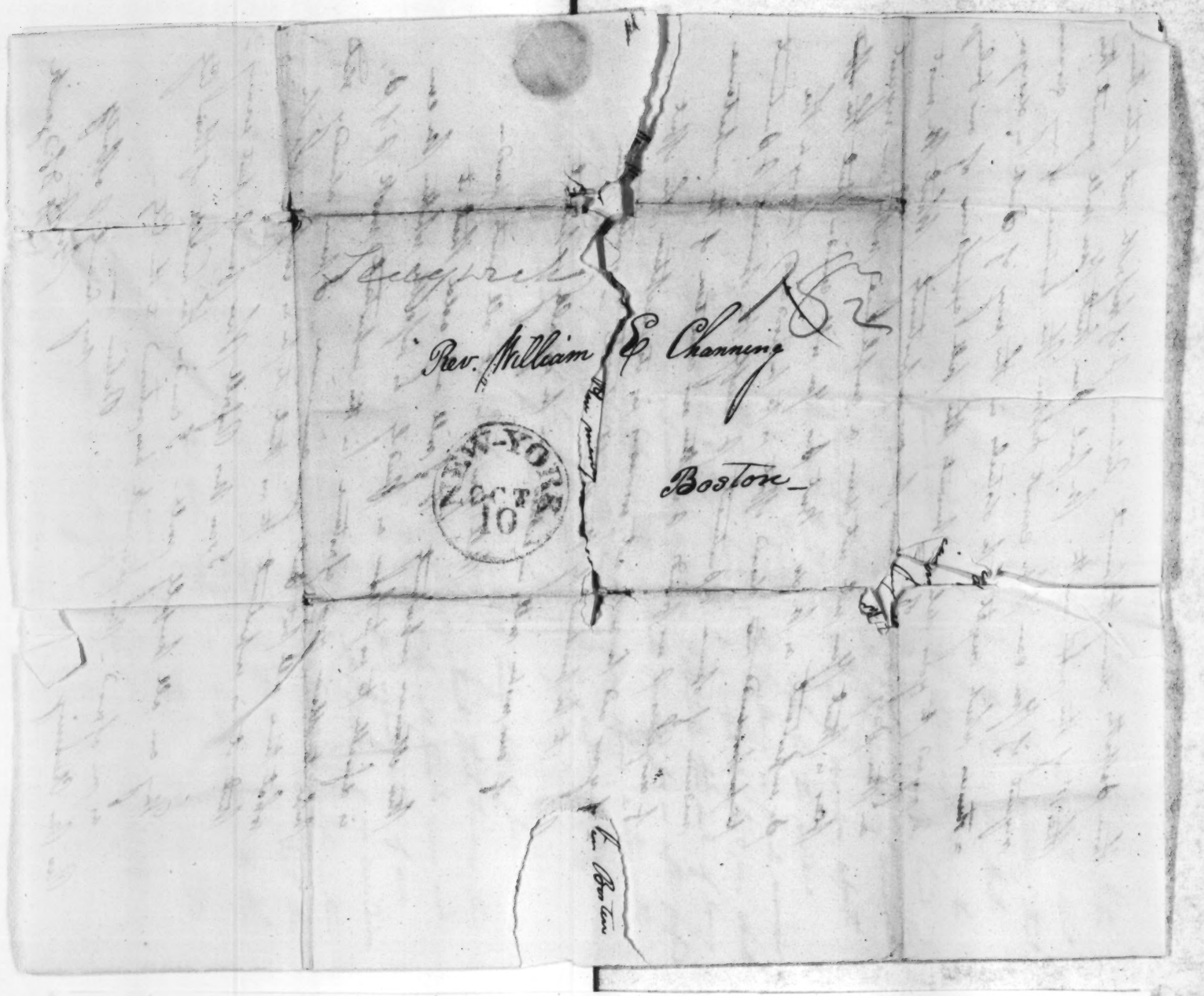
Will You, Sir, at all events, hear from your attorney in Kentucky. & I will only add that it is desirable to us to know as speedily as possible whether We can rely to obtain your assistance in this important work, & if so, what time will suit best your convenience. I have already stated that it is important to us that it be as early as possible.

I saw Mrs Russell & her family last evening - They are all perfectly well - I consider the health of the City as restored - Mrs Sedgwick has returned to the City -

Believe me
very sincerely & gratefully
Yours
C. Sedgwick

Rev Mr Channing

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #102



William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #102

S.E Sewall

n.d.
c

May 4th

Rev'd Dear Sir,

I must beg leave
to decline engaging myself
to you, for next Sunday
or the following — My present
expectation is to be called
to Attleborough to preach on
probation — Beside this I
have some intention of a
visit to Dedham to meet my
mother, who has been long
absent and will be there on
her return from N York the
last of this week — Most respectfully
W E Sewall

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #103

Benev- is not to be considered as
occasionly binding on us — on daily
now & then — but as the habit
& power enjoyed upon
us as a habit & state of the
mind — It is to meet with the
we say, & do, stink & pashions
It is to be habit of
all of plans of life, to color all our
Judgments of — fellow creatures, to
control — bunish & rebuke —
Freedom — the
In our prayers — & practice — to
carry it with us to — closets —
It is to be one kind of amusement
in society as with man — We
cannot never
escape him — It shd be with
us a feature, a element
to be exhibited in our
as

embrace, innumerable streets into
all times & manners.

The means formed in the
Xn church is always be-
nevolent - In laboring for Xmas
it is as truly her object to give
that he may give & do good,
as that he may support his
own wants - Thus the
applies to all classes - for Xy
requires - those who work with
their own hands, to be under-
stood of the end of acquiring
something to bestow in him that
need it - & true Xn values
Xmas much more than as a
means of benevolence,
than of private gratifi-

& accordingly the Xn who at a fast
to which of a sin keeping by to believe
without, that the to the fact
that the hard earnings of the
laborious in a times there are
imitators & much of the
poor widow where two mites Xt
preferred to the offering of the
rich -

The man who truly follows Xt is
always benevolent - In his pleasures
He does not exhaust in these
his means of doing good, & wishes
that others may share them -
He is benevolent in his culture of his
powers - for it is his aim to
in enlarging his intellectual, to in-
crease his power of usefulness -
abelity of usefulness -
In his calling he is benevolent, wishing
by his labor to contribute to the
general weal, & to render as

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #103

My dear Sir,

I regret that it will not be in my power to accept your very kind invitation for this evening.

Yours very truly

Jared Sparks

Rcd 7
Feb. 11

Gs love seen in his fully our best exp-
ec of happs - in any we are not exposr
goods, but ingrat - There is a distinct
of good - the gives the highest -
& in offry to us everlasting, he offers to exert
for our hrs in helping us - the desire to
be active in our behalf - the offers to
command help to that end - the wishes
to establish with us a covenan of perfect
love - & not this love -
the desires to be on perfect benefactor -

To

W. Channing, Jr.

Berry St.

---

*the desires a perfect covenan - He
intimates & calls us to be his everlasting
children - the wishes us to be one
in his mind, thro eternity to be
ryt of his facts - not to be tempo-
ary recipients -

the mother in two the highest
health - that of knowing the unborn
the being -

Too called us to be everlasting members
of her family, to dwell forever in her
presence - this is real -

the mother eternal, ever increasing ours - that
we shd approach her more nearly - &
draw from her more freely & fully -
Oh what are her bosom

She offers herself to us, in her whole
perfect, to be enjoyed - imbibed - to
watch over us - to give herself to us -
When we speak of God as an everlasting
good - do we understand what it implies -
It means that he purposes to be during &
true, everlastingly in doing us good -
If it is not his purpose to
communicate a bath what we
may enjoy forever what any
finite perfection from his bounty.
to Him & while forever
forever in dependence -

being, we are to exist & to enjoy
from him & constantly exerted power
& benevolence - to that he designs to
make us perfectly his care - to act
on us & for us ever - His love is
devoted to change, to purify, perfect
what is fallen - We shall not by
unlimited existence become self-
existent, or God-like - but in
relation to the enlargement of our na-
tures shall need a larger bounty -
To that to exist for ever is to learn
forever, & to draw forever from
her fulness - & in finding the good,
he purposes to be an everlasting friend,
& benefactor - the word forever
the with us which are now to be
developed -

Communion - May. 28.

My dear Sir,

If I preached for anybody at present, it would certainly give me great pleasure to comply with your request; but as I have thought it necessary wholly to decline all invitations for sometime past, I must beg you will excuse me, and accept the sincere regards and respect of yours very truly,

Jared Sparks

Rev. Dr. Channing.

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #105

To commem Xt - designed to give
strength & power to our conception
of him - to convert faith into
affection -

The importance of his character a reason -

The blind fixed on him eyes of love with tears
of thankfulness - the lame followed him
with thanksgivings - but lame & blind
have received [illegible] this sense -

Xn obedience is to be prompted from love of Xt
Xt is the inspirer of the virtues he taught
By his death we learn his love - satisfy the
measure of love - We cannot look into

Rev. Wm. E. Channing, D.D.

Mount Vernon

heart - we see love by acts, & where
do we see it as in cross -

Xt might have escaped suffering at any
moment - not his enemies - not the
nails & spear held him to the
cross, but his own love -

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #105

[Nov. 13
n.d.]
c

My Dear Sir,

I regret that a business engagement prevents my accepting your kind invitation for to-morrow evening.

Respectfully & truly
Your friend & Serv.t
W.m Sturgis

Summer Street
Monday eve.g Nov.r 13

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #106

What do we see?

Much evil — but what does it represent

— much that is low, grovelling, but what is at work? a moral principle —

It is around every being —

Very often, what passes me, absorbs me, is no matter —

Rev. W. E. Channing

Mt. Vernon Street —

In vain beyond the seen, the present — pass is what is all —

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #106

To -

Rev. Dr. Channing

Thursday Evening.

My dear Sir,

Can you do us the favour to dine with us on Saturday at 3. o'clock.

Yrs. very sincerely

Geo: Tickner

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #107

Rev. W. Ellery Channing.

Dear Sir.

If you have the Report & vote of the Church at Hanover which you read yesterday, will you please to send it to me by the bearer. I will return it to you.

Yr. very truly
Geo. Bickner.

Monday.

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #108

C

My dear Sir,

Can you do me the favour to give or lend me for a few days, a copy of Mr. Sedgwick's report on an Agricultural School? I know not where else to ask for one.

Did you put Mrs. Parkman's name on the list of Invitations last Evening? I wish, as many accounts, that she could be with us.

Yr. very sincerely

Geo. Ticknor

Tuesday.

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #109

How the two Bishops reconcile the
clashing claims — we know not —

We hope here to observe our own
Officers, agents, rulers — Now
serve the good people of Boston
&c —

Suppose a man keeps the guardenship
ship of several young children in different
parts of town — guards of town —
Marks merchandize — the master of
Boston — Mayor —

The Court —

Do.

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #109

n.d

My dear Sir,

While you do us the favour
to dine with us on Monday at 3 o'clock

Very sincerely yours
Wm. Ticknor

Saturday

It is well to speak freely on all subjects - & candour ought not to shrink between the different parts of a country, between the free States & the slave states, especially between the Western & South Western parts of the country -

Gen. Am. Harmonists

Men, who are born & bred up as mute, are apt to entertain a tone of haughty & common & what ought to be candour runs into fierceness - & [illegible] manners, [illegible]

the in who the laborers
occupate of life are filled
by slaves, with work
with a few of whom
in communities, where these
are trusted by freemen,
& where these labors
communities, the free mem-
bers of which discharge these
humble offices. In the present
case, the antipathy of the
north to the south hurts
of springs. The North
& slave state is outstripped
by the free. & with
all the powers of
superiority which the

part of domestic service must
ever be uniform. Slave labor
cannot be so productive
as part of freemen. In com-
merce, manufactures, agric, in archite
ture & the elegant arts, in enterprise
& industry, we do & must
in wealth & in the elegancies
of the better wealth, we
must vanish in south
West - & subsidy thus rule
over & must excite to
colony, which countries
by the stern moral duty
which we apprehend does
not as yet exist -.
Vice is their ab - The

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #110

n.d.
C

Dear Sir

Two foreign gentlemen now in town wish to hear several of our preachers and have particularly desired me to ascertain which part of the day you will preach to-morrow. Will you do them the favor to inform the bearer.

Yours very sincerely

Geo: Dickson

Saturday

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #111

~~Faith of Jesus~~ - begun with outline

Do I learn to love my race
when I omit portion - What do I learn
my nature in its entire powers
for ~~of~~ outline ~~Second two of the~~
prop'd to want of creed -

What do I learn - any comedy
certain - no -
General outline not profitable to
learn -
Scandal dreadful
The truest course is self-improvement
Beautiful lesson - only reason
by ~~but~~ what is developed in my
own heart in all -

C

Dear Sir,

The Steam Boat Franklin was to have left New York on Wednesday 4 p.m. - and to have returned to New York to day. —
It is not yet certain whether the Boat left or not, as the Storm came on Wednesday night & we have not heard since. —

It is however probable that tomorrow or Sunday the Boat will leave Providence for New York. — and that it either left New York on wednesday or will leave there this afternoon.

I will inform you when I learn — meantime by enquiry this Evening at the Fremont House it can be known if the Boat is arrived & when to leave. — I am undecided myself when to go - depending on my Letters. Dear Sir

Very truly yours

Friday 3 p.m. Z. Ward

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 112

Rev. Dr Channing.

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 112

c

Dear Sir - I received yesterday a note from Mr Flint, who says that he will follow Mr Francis to N.Y. & wishes that letters may be left for him at Mr Deblois', 110 Chesnut Street.

Any part of your manuscript will be acceptable as soon as you have prepared it, as the printers are ready to commence it immediately. I could not judge how much you wished to write - but I have remain twenty one pages to be filled, - whereof eight, or even seven, might be sufficient for Intelligence. -

with affectionate respect
Yours truly
Friday A.M.

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #113

[illegible] ready to have room
When we are said to be saved by
death, blood,
Xts sufferings, we are not to
confine our
look at the more sufferings, but
to consider the state
of mind in which they were
born, & the labours with they
found & furnished, & the
world to which they led - this not
all these are included in Xts sufferings,
& thus [illegible] we are saved much
more [illegible] by his mere person,
[illegible]
than had not Xts sufferings been endured
this love, & character been expressive
of his character, been attestation of his
religion, been his passage to future
glory, they would not have saved
us - they must always be con-
nected with his character, his en-
nature, & his exaltation - To say
that we are saved by his
blood, is to say we are [illegible]

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #113

are saved by his love who ~~loved~~ continued unto death - by his obedience to his will who &c, & by his ministry who his death sealed by his ~~removal~~ to who his death led the way - by his power who are saved of his death -

~~The death & sufferings of Xt then are chiefly important~~ When we read therefore of his sufferings, we must not stick at the - ~~they are representations of other things~~ These views are important, because we are in danger of taking too narrow views of the religion - to ascribe to much value to one thing only - to suppose the death of Xt to be infinitely more important than any thing else - & thus, to undervalue the true & great purpose & cause of salvation -

Xt death indeed is most important but how - not of & by itself - It is important as ~~the~~ naughty to us the mind, heart, spirit of Xt - as privy to his holiness - as completing his obedience & example - &c &c - It is important as connected with his whole religion - It saves us by & thro with the whole, not as a seperate cause, but as a part of the causes -

We must therefore form no false notion - as of his death ~~atonement~~, or his more endurance of pain to save us - We are saved by his death - but what is - his death ~~cause~~ was a consequent

n.d.
c

Dear Sir,

My only objection to publishing my address, but which with me is sufficient & decisive, is that Dr P. withholds his charge; & as the other parts are merely accompaniments to the sermon, I conceive that they should all be published or none. I am happy that what I said should be thot reasonable & useful; & I have no objection to keeping it by me for future events.

The other suggestion in your note I perfectly accord with - but know not to whom to apply for such a notice. I have not the time now. Would it not be possible for you to attend to it?

respectfully & truly Yours.

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #114

Rev 2 the care of the world met
that this subject may be conve-
niently passed over - the mer-
cy of judgt - the gr fast
to a sinner before Xt
You know for him gospel is in
yr hands - you are not like
the ancients subjected to any
mysterious process - you
know the rules by which you will
be judged, & by them are you
living -

Rev. Dr Channing.

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #114

n.d.
C

Dear Sir

I will very cheerfully preach the Lecture; – but it will not be in my power to accept your invitation to dinner.

with great respect
Yr Obt

Thursday Morn.

we held it as a prejudice, of what avail is it — We do not yield su-preme homage to G —

Then reason deserves consideration — ~~by many~~ The belief of Xty is not the same thing now as formerly — Formerly to believe in Xty was to op-pose all worldly influence — a therefore noble — now it is to comply with the ; & therefore Suspicion —, a man now may be led from the very motives which first led to its rejection — i.e from prejudices of enhanced & hence belief of Xty not of same value —

So a man may fight for Xty with the same heart — with which it was first rejected — i.e — from

Making his respects to a cheerful [redacted] there,
whom to please
Where was X— not
does X+ love him to be happy- they must be rich-
n.d.
c
Dear Sir
Love but nothing to eat-

I do not recollect
having used any plant of
the name mentioned in
your note, nor any
indigenous plant for
complaint of your correspondent
cut. and apprehend there is
a mistake on the subject.
I would give me pleasure
certain satisfaction to be able
to communicate any information
in my power, for the advant-
age of your friend. —
Very respectfully Faithfully
yrs Edward Everett-

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #116

The mind has [illegible] food, & may be in famine –

Want of a new life – of life of soul –

Want –

It is not a mere want of happiness – but a thirst for objects of affection –

The soul wants a right object for its love –

It wants virtue – purity – high & pure feeling –

– wants noble objects –

Occasion – signs – causes – effects of this want –

Often come to feel, that they have enjoyed – but not been happy –

Want springs from knowledge – In barbarous men wants few things

Life in its height presents new objects, beings, &c – & creates new wants –

The power of habit is to be overcome. Some strong motive is needed –

Use of words – misleading of reasoning –

Religion must not seem a slight defect – but a great, deep, infinite –

We must feel as if we had nothing in want not wanting it –

Rev. Dr. Channing
Mt Vernon

Fowler Engraving
Henry Beaufort
Portfolio
Bay 2 S 6
Lake

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #116

n.d.

Dear Sir

You misunderstood the purport of my question. I wish'd to know at what Inn you intended to stop on your arrival in Glasgow as one of my friends would wait on you soon after your arrival there — Yours truly

P S Hardcastle

Monday Morn'g

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #117

An acquaintance with life, generous
fears, does not favour benevolence, at least, not generosity, or the
ality - In youth, quick sympathy, ignorance of the world, absent hopes, & the absence of calculation, favour generous feels, - but as we advance the weight of our cares begins to press on us - Giving grows a more serious work, when we come to give what has cost us ~~serious~~ toil - We ~~[illegible]~~ find too that misery is a more obstinate evil than we at first imagined, that it is not to be rolled away from society by a few efforts, but is a heavy steady mass on which the efforts of the individual, & the combined exertions of thousands make no very sensible impression - We grow to the edge of the pit - We come too to learn the

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #117

the connection between us (for I sincerely wish more frequent than we have ever enjoyed, to want in all the faults of excess or slothful seclusion of social indulgence), that suppose what we once thought wanton offence is often provoked, & that in most instances among men, all the right is not on the side of the injured party - But those are not the most blameless, who are the readiest to take offence, who are most sensitive to slights, who are most keenly alive to the real or imaginary neglects, or what they deem such, which they suffer from their fellow creatures, perhaps by society at large - The latter is perhaps chargeable with the error. They darken their own days, poison their own peace, destroy their own relish of life, & render themselves miserable by jealousy, private envy, or malignity - The first claim are deemed = Of those who feel on the same subject, & with the same provocation, get the start of them, destroy them, are preferred before them in their own presence, & forward in the world's blandishments & partialities. Many are more at heart, when they thank, or they keenly thank, of the pleasure in society, than those in the pride of life, who they remember the numerous with calmness or wanton levity have encroached at the expence, when they see continually passing before their eyes the proud displays of success & attendant which do not better than themselves enjoy - Yes - Like does express great numbers to mortifying reverses, to experience of neglect, to despite which they ascribe to others & which they count as injuries - & who - they see how society casts the off, neglects forgets

n.d.
C

Dear Sir, All but ten
suspended - in
relation to
party. They
on the state, t
affairs of the Colly
for that Stay w
these situation forbod
make Some sacr
obloguy of being of chafue - —

Mr. Otis will return from Taunton next
Thursday at furthest. - I should like to see a meeting this
day week - if not next monday or tuesday week. Will you
write me a line by mail or to care of Cummings
Hallowell.

Truly & affec. & F. T. Kirkland

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #118

Life a unit - power of pantheism

Soul is one - life a stream

Habit a great law - It shd be taught on children - It shd be written on our own minds -

Duty Thes not meant to have been ever on us - We to have form one & our habit -

Thes powers is bound in habit -

Nothing is trifling - No amusements persons only - not things trifling -

Amusement to be judged by its influences, common - ask good in the please -

by means that we shd have present repertoire Life is made of continued effort -

In pleasure enjoy that we deserve/dr

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #118

Have we more power, over ourselves, over time, desire, will, intellect?

Do we act more from ourselves, or our minds — or are we shaped by others —

How has habit acted — Has it shaped God or evil —

The evil of life consists, not so much in doing positively bad things, as in losing a noble end, acting from low habits, & acting from dead minds —

If in doing an act, we turn a charmed wand round our bodies, we shd be alarmed — But ought habit to work changes by every deed —

Nobly undertake —

Your first step will give shd move — The contents Note —

Rev. Wm E. Channing D.D.

Rhode Island

n.d.

Dear Charles

Mother has received this note to day — I enclose it to you, as she does not know what it is best to do; whether to sell the Scrip at its present rate, or to hold it until it is worth more. Mother wishes you to do what you think

best as she is unable
to form any opinion.
I hope your head
is better than when
I saw you last —
I have received
no letters from
Frederic yet.
Yrs very truly
M L Eustis
March 15th.

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #120

n.d.c

Taking the prejudices of those about us into consideration, I know of no sermon of his that would do us more service than that which he originally delivered as two sermons on infidelity, in consequence of English Jewish or infidel work, & which sermons I wrote to Wells & Lilly for as intending it as one of our tracts, but find it is out of print.

I find that Dr C's new york sermon in the "Objections to unitarian Christianity considered" which Mr Sparks sent to London, is to be published in their monthly work, the Christian reformer.

If Dr Channing would leave your east winds in April & come directly to Balto he would find I think a very great improvement in the season. I wish you would come too, & I dare say Hannah does who says who are you writing to?

I eat salt fish to day with Harry Huey—

With respects Love to Mother & all I am Dr Sir Yr Affec Sn
C H Appleton

Hon. Thomas Dawes

Purchase Street
Boston

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #119

296 Beacon St.
March 13th

My dear Miss Channing.

If you will send me three tickets for Mrs Washburn's reading I shall be pleased to take them.

I hardly expect to be able to attend, but I hope to send my representatives. I trust that you will succeed in disposing

of tickets enough to make it worth the while. Washburn's while to read and am sorry that I cannot indulge in the luxury of taking a large number.

I am pleased to learn that you too are one of the descendants of that wood which the "tenth Muse" sang of so pleasantly.

Believe me, dear Miss Channing
Faithfully Yours
O.W. Holmes.

When you send the tickets-kindly fill me where to leave or send the money.

C

My dear Mary —

Mrs. Ripley gave you a packet for Philadelphia — As your movements however are always rather uncertain — I wish you would let me have the packet — as the Stewarts are going on Monday at all events & will take charge of it. Your Mother or Father has it if you have not —

I send this bill to your father because I know he wishes to pay it today — & it will save him all trouble about it. My boy is truly worthy. Truly yours — E. P. Peabody —

turn over

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #122

n.d.

late indisposition -
I resolved to preach
no more until sent
for as a candidate for
settlement. If after
so much rest - I am
still unable to raise
my voice - and make
myself heard without
exposing my health - I
must resign my pro-
fession.

Let me not then
seem obstinate where I
ever wish to shew my
grateful respect. I must
decline Mr Channing's
proposal.

with respect -

E. D. Sewall

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date # 123

Return generated in vain ways—
Sometimes by a feely of want—
The mind cannot satisfy itself
here—
It is annoyed of being above
those things as its habit—
It paints—
Then sometimes takes place an
ment of prosperity—
The talk can tasted & found vapid—
Then a noble indecate—Then a noble
discontent—

n.d.

Chas. H. Parker Esq.

My dear Sir

Having to call next door I lean this to say I am glad Mrs Channing did not send me her scrip direct as I have heard since writing her of sales at high rate (sometimes I believe) & some holders now think the scrip will eventually be worth its face.—

For the matter in hand, please sell it to any person offering more than I do, but if none such appear I will take it at 70 ℔ at which the last sales I know of were made

Resp. Yrs
D. N. Sproat

427.86

William Ellery Channing Letters
No date #124

My Dear William

Mr Robbins is this moment setting of for Boston and this is to desire you to send by him an exact measure of a Shirt ~~for~~ — you Shall have them as soon as possible we are all well except colds Ann is in bed was att a grand ball the last eve it was the presidents birthnight Mr R will tell you about it Mary will write her cousin the next opportunity — your uncle Henry has another Son they are well My Love to your and My freinds I wish much to see you all the winter is leaving us fast I hope you will be at newyrobt in the Summer and that you may have it in your power to visit Newlondon

your affectionately L Channing

Lucy Channing
179-

Mr William Channing

Mama

1794 C

Be not Surpriz'd my dear william
at receiving a letter from me I did not
promise you I should write and if I reme-
-mber was not asked. but I should be ready
to accuse myself if I did not acknow-
-ledge the pleasure your letters give me.
they give at once the proof of your affect
-ion. and improvement. your last letter was
well wrote. the improvement of my child
ren in Virtue and knowledge is all the hap
-piness I can enjoy Shive then my son to-
make me happy. I hope I shall not expect
too much from My Sons parents are
apt to expect too much from their child
dren. I will only hope from the advantages

this is only for your eye

they have had one are receiving every day. emmitate
the example you have before you and I shall
be satisfied — — this day is the Sabbath
I should not have been writing you at this time
but was deprived of the pleasure of publick
worship by a bad humour I have. and I am fearfull
of taking cold. My time I hope is not Mispent.
this day is a gloomy day to me. it was a time
when we used to be all togather but now Scattered our better
part gone for ever — but I will enculge the
thought of having my dear boys returned and
be happy with them — — you must give
My best regards to uncle and aunt hope they enjoy
their health. be as carefull as posible and avoid
given your aunt unnessary trouble. I shall
send your waistcoat. yrs affectionately W Channy

Mama's

Lucy Channing
1794?

William E Channing

New London

Newport July 10th 1794

My dear Sir, Recieved

College Entrance —

Upon the receipt of your uncle's letter, your Ma consulted Mr. Rogers, and here follows a copy of his note to her. "The four Evangelists, Acts, Romans and the Epistles are required from Candidates for Entrance into Cambridge University; — but in instances of such compleat Latin Scholars as I know William to be. I doubt not they would dispense with the Epistles provided he passes a good examination in the three former viz Evangelists, Acts & Romans". —

You have only to pursue the Greek until the time of admission with your usual application, and I will pledge myself for your honorable reception into the bosom of my Alma mater. —

If there are in the Romans some things hard to be understood in point of language as well as sentiment, and you can construe them I should think there would not be great difficulty in your construing the Epistles, especially when I consider the progress you have made, and that it is not your mode to skim over the surface of things. —

You must enter College this year by all means, and hasten to obtain an liberal education at an expence which will be greatly diminished by the spontaneous offer of your benevolent uncle Dana. —

He will be a father, and his wife will be a mother to you; and if you should behave as well while you live with him as you have always done, and I have told him and I am sure you will always do, and his valuable life should be continued, it is highly probable that his recommendation may place you in an advantageous situation when you shall have proceeded from College.— But the fairest prospects are not always attended with success.— We must take such measures as appear to be reasonable, be industrious, virtuous and pious, and leave the event to that Being who knows best how to dispose of us.— To his care I commend you, and am affectionately

Yours Wm Ellery

Mr

William Channing

New-London

State of Connecticutt

favoured by

Mr Stockton

Wm Channing

July 1794

Autograph

11

Uncorrected copies — all but one(?) of the Ellery. C
editors

No.1. Addressed " Mr. William Channing
New London
Connecticutt "
Forwarded by Mr. Stockton.

Newport July 16th. 1794
My dear Sir,

Upon the receipt of your Uncle's letter, your Ma øø consulted Mr. Rogers, and here follows a copy of his note to her."The four Evangelists, Acts, Romans and the Epistles are required from cantidates for Entrance into Cambridge University;- but in instances of such complete Latin Scholars as I know William to be, I doubt not they would dispense with the Epistles provided he passes a good examination in the three former viz Evangalists, Acts & Romans."

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Yours

Wm. Ellery.

Newport October 24th 1794

Dear Sir,

I believe I do not owe you a letter; but I owe to you my regard and affection, and these dictate this friendly epistle.

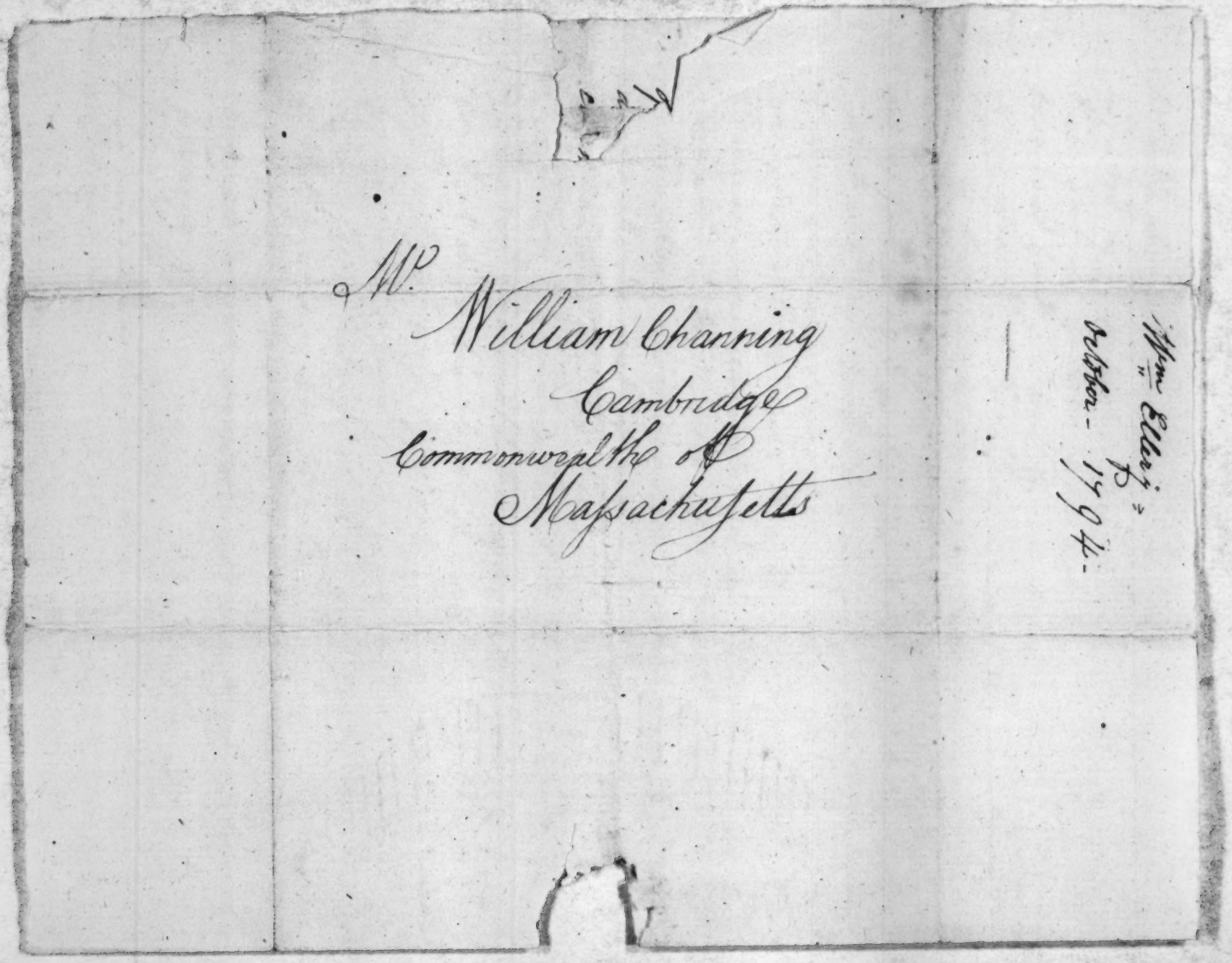
It gave me great satisfaction, when I was at Cambridge, to find that you was attentive to your studies, and that the interval was filled with reading some useful books; but among them I do not recollect that I saw that best of books, the Bible. This ought by no means to be neglected. It should be the rule of your conduct and the guide of your youth. If it should not be generally read at College this can be no good objection to its being daily read by you. You are not so conceited as to conceive that your reason is a sufficient guide, as to despise instruction and to be taught of God. To be a disbeliever in God and the Gospel of his Son, however fashionable it may be in France, the Mother of fashions, I hope it will never be the Vogue in the United States, or in any part thereof. Avoid a multiplicity of College Acquaintance; especially such as think manly to ridicule the Scriptures, or neglect their studies, and devote themselves to their pleasures. You may treat them all with civility, and to this you will be led by your natural disposition; but

be intimate with few, and in making your choice be directed by their virtue, their attention to their studies, their goodness of disposition, and their regard for the peace and good order.— Youth are apt to think themselves wiser than their teachers, and this induces them to draw characters of their Instructors, which are not the best likenesses of the Originals; and I dare say as soon almost as you was matriculated you was entertained with such Portraits.— We do not cordially receive instruction from those of whom we have imbibed an unfavorable opinion; therefore pay no regard to the smart, adroit caricaturists at College;— but think favorably of its Officers, and Governors; and if any of them should have some peculiarities, pass them by, & to make the most of such instruction as they communicate, and be obedient to the laws.— &

You are placed in a family where you will receive the kindest treatment,— this you will repay by a constant disposition to oblige your Uncle and Aunt, & will make yourself agreeable to their children and the whole family.— In a family, where you will be tempted to indulge in eating, which is unfavorable to study; for a Halitus ciborum non est helluo librorum.— Be temperate in your meals, diligent in your studies, and virtuous in your conduct.— and may God bless and preserve you,

Present my love to Mr. Dana and his brothers and sisters.—

Yrs affect. Wm Ellery


Wm Ellery
Boston
1794
Mr
William Channing
Cambridge
Commonwealth of
Massachusetts

Newport October 21,1794.(Addressed to"Mr. William Channing" c

Dear Sir.

I believe I do not owe you a letter;but I owe to you regard and affection and thesedictate this friendly epistle.6

It gave me great satisfaction, when I was at Cambridge, to find that you was attentive to your studies, and that the interval was filled with reading some useful books;- but among them I do not recollect that I saw that best of books, the Bible . This ought by no means to be neglected. It should be the man of your council and the guide of your youth.If it should not be generally read at College this can be no good objection to its being daily read by you.-You are not so conceited as to conceive that your reason is a sufficient guide as to despise instruction and to be taught of God.- To be a disbeliever in God and the Gospel of his Son, however fashionable it may be in France,the Mother of fashions, I hope it will never be the Vogue in the United States, or in any part thereof.- Avoid a multiplicity of College Aquaintance especially such as think it manly to ridicule the Scriptures, or neglect their studies,and devote themselves to their pleasures.- you may treat all with civility, and to this you will be led by your natural dispotion;-but be intimate with few, and in making your choise be directed by their virtue, their attention to their studies, their goodness of dispositio and their regard for peace and good order. Youth are apt to th think themselves wiser than their teachers, andthis induces them to draw characters of their Instructors, which are not the best likenasses of the Originals; and I dare say as soon almost as you was matriculated you was entertained with such Portraits.- We do not cordially receive instruction from these of whom we have imbibed an unfavorable ~~impressionxxx~~ opinion; therefore pay no regard to the smart , adroit characturists at College;- but think favorably of its Officers , and Governors; and if any of them have some percularities, pass them by and make the most of such instruction as they ( )communicate, and be obiedient to the Laws.

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Present my love to Frank Dana and his brothers and sisters.

Dr Sir, Newport Jan[y] 29th 1796

2nd page

Your Ma and I and all your relations take it very unfriendly that you have not favoured one of us at least with a letter during the vacation. We do not doubt but that your whole time has been usefully employed; but we regret that you did not steal a few minutes from your Studies to tell us how you, our Cantabrigian, Medfordian, and Lancastrian friend did.

I do not recollect that I am in your debt, and to your mother you owe obligations which the most dutiful and affectionate attention, and the most grateful services cannot cancel. She hopes that amidst your severer, or more gentle studies, you have not omitted the study of the Holy Scriptures; but that you daily attend to them, and make them the constant guide of your Youth.

When Adam had transgressed the commands of his Creator, Governor, and Friend it was a part of his punishment that he should obtain his Bread by the Sweat of his Brow all the days of his life; and the Spiritual Bread, the Bread of Life, cannot be acquired but by a steady regard to the Rules of Scripture, in which way alone We may expect the Divine benediction. The way of wisdom and virtue is infested with thorns and briars, and with manifold temptations to indolence and vice arising from the depravity of human Nature; those We must sedulously extirpate, and these we must shun

if we can, and if we cannot we must resist with unabating resolution. — If we suffer the former to grow, and the latter to enchant us it will be in vain that Paul hath planted the best of principles in our youthful minds, and that Apollos hath watered them; for we cannot rationally expect that God will give them to increase. — On the contrary the soil ^ostensibly by the allurements of vice will afford but an easier passage, and quicker growth to briars and thorns, and they will soon overtop, shade or suffocate those plants which bid fair to be plants of renown. — Therefore my grandson get wisdom, get understanding, and especially the knowledge of that Being whom to know aright will not only smooth and irradiate the path of life; but is life Eternal. — Where and how this knowledge is to be obtained I have ventured to suggest, and to animate you to eradicate the noxious weeds which will start up in the best of minds, and to combat with manly and strong resolution the temptations to vice which will beset us in the course of life; — not from any the most distant suspicion of your being ignorant of the way that leads to true happiness, or of any the least remissness in your duty either in your duty to God or to man; but from a sincere desire to promote your best interest, and because when I requested your dear Mother to propose the subject for a letter to you, She mentioned that She hoped that amidst others, that you would not forget to read your Bible diligently, and that you would not cease to cultivate those seeds of virtue and piety which your Uncle Henry had sown in your Mind. — She sends you the Thanksgiving Sermon and desires that after you and such of the good

family as may chuse to read it & shall have read it, you would send it to your brother Francis.

She has enjoyed a good measure of health this winter, and I too have shared in this blessing. The weather hitherto has been very moderate, and the Scorbutick Rheumatic which confined me the last Winter to my house has not confined me this. Your relations and Sister are all well, and if this Letter finds you, the Judge, his Lady and their children, and our other Northern and Western Relations and Friends well it will be well. Edmund has reviewed Virgil, and entered upon Cicero's Orations, and is very assiduous. — Your Ma has procured a warm waistcoat to be made for him out of a piece of cloth which Mrs Dana intended for young Fortune. She thought his other was too thin for the season, and he is now snug, warm and hearty.

This I believe is the plainest, most old fashioned Epistle I ever wrote. If you should not think it the worst I shall be glad.

Give my affectionate regards to the Chief Justice, and Mrs Dana, and all their Children.

With the best wishes for your health and happiness I am sincerely

Yours Wm Ellery

PS I shall expect an answer very soon cont. information about your Studies, and our friends

Grandpapa's
Letters

Mr. William C. Channing
Cambridge
Massachusetts

Wm Ellery
Jany 1795

Addressed to William E. Channing, Cambridge, Massachucetts.
Newport Jany. 29th 1795
Dear Sir,

Your Ma and I and all your relations take it very unkindly that you have not favored one of us at least with a letter during the vacation. We do not doubt that your whole time has been usefully employed, but we regret that you did not steel a few minutes from your Studies to tell us how you, our ~~Cambridgian~~ Cantabrigian, Medfordian and Lancastrian friends did.--

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Give my affectionate regards to the Chief Justice, and Mrs. Dana and all their children.

With the best wishes for your health and happiness

I am sincerely

Yrs

Wm. Ellery

P,S. I shall expect an answer very soon contg. imformation about your studies and our friends.

Addressed to "Mr. William E. Channing, Cambridge Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Honoured by Squire Stedman"

Newport Nov. 10th. 1796.

Dear Sir,

Your letter of the 21st. of Oct. last needed no Apology, and indeed I doubt whether in the happiest situation you would have composed a better.- you are one of the most favored men, for amidst the ebullition of wit, and peals of laughter, and emptiness of brains you appear to be entirely collected and attentive to your business,- and better still, with a bad pen and worse ink you have written a fairer and a more legible hand, ~~hand.~~ than I believe you ever did before. The lines of your letter are too nearly straight and parallel, not up and down and zigzag as they used to be.- What may not be expected, or rather what do you promise the epistle will be when you shall be retired and furnished with proper implements for writing?

If there should be a Dictionary of physical laws, I think it ought to be in the College Library. Perhaps a Dispensary might be of some use to you or a common Dictionary. With these and your knowledge of the Greek and Latin Languages, I should think you would be able to read the medical books recomended with understanding.- I agree with Dr. Warren so far, that a clearer idea can be obtained of the human body, and I would add if it were to the point, of any other body , or object, by an actual view than by written discriptions, but but why are cuts and explainations given in books.- are they intended to give imperfect ideas, and wrong notions of th the parts of the human body and of their dispositions?.- I believe not, and although the foregoing observation be just, yet I humbly conceive great advantage may be derived from the written discriptions, and from good books,- HoweverI wish you may have an opportunity to attend dissections . Are none made innCambridge? I had an opportunity at Philadelphia to see a waxen representation of a male and female human body.-

Newport 22nd Apl. 22: 1795

c

Dear Sir,

+ See last page.

I received your letter without a date by your uncle Walter, and am happy to find that the expressions in a former letter were not true indicators of your feelings when you wrote it. — Indeed I did not know very well how to reconcile them with that disposition of heart of which I had found you to be so eminently possessed. —

A man who is insensible to his faults will not endeavour to correct them, and he is not a friend who will not point them out wherever they occur. — Physicians sometimes gild the Pills which they administer to females; and if you should be that of profession you may find it necessary; but I am neither a gilder nor a dauber; and, to pursue the Metaphor, my patients has too much firmness, and good sense to refuse a dose which may prove beneficial, because it is either bitter to the taste or coarsely put up. — Some things, like the little book administered to St. John, although as sweet as honey to the mouth, yet they make the belly bitter. Other things although exceedingly unpalatable, yet are warming, tonic and invigorating.

I am not offended by a few spots or blots which negligence hath dropped, or unwary human nature. This observation you will recollect to have been Horace, whom you are, it seems, now studying, and who though justly reprehensible for his

oppenities, hath liberally dispensinated through his Arte Poetica, his Satires, and his Epistles most excellent mayims and rules of life. — I have lent my Horace to I dont know who, and it has not been returned; otherwise I would have given you his observation in his own words. — you will find them in his Arte Poetica. —

But although a close attention to matters substantial, may lead to inattention to small things; yet it is a fact that the latter tends to the neglect of things of real importance; and it is as true that the happiness of life consists in a number of little things, as that any portion of matter is infinitely divisible, that one hundred cents make a dollar, that habits are formed by degrees, or that a mans delicacy consisteth not in the abundance which he possesseth. And let me add that nothing ought to be esteemed a trifle, an inattention to which may cause any degree of unhappiness. —

I wish I could study Homer and Xenophon with you; for I find, by now and then reading the Greek Testament with Edmund, my memory is refreshed, and I should be glad to recover a part at least of that sonorous, beautiful language. — The present course of your studies is useful. Latin you are well enough acquainted with. Greek you will easily master. Mathematics, and natural Philosophy, are useful in every profession and occupation; and therefore merit peculiar attention. English Grammar, and Rhetoric, assist greatly in speaking and writing correctly, perspicuously and forcibly. History furnishes us with a knowledge of the customs & manners of former nations and people, the Revolutions

~~of Society~~ in governments, the progress of society, and in a word with human nature at large, and is a pleasing and instructive Study. — The Revolution in France will, I hope, terminate in an constitution of government favorable to Liberty and Public Happiness. This will form a closer connection between us and them, increase our mutual intercourse, and render a knowledge of their language more than a polite accomplishment, — highly beneficial. —

+ It gives me great satisfaction to be informed your behaviour has recommended you to the esteem of the Governors of and the Students in College, and to the family where you reside; and that you bid fair to outstrip the expectations of all your friends. — Go on my young friend and prosper! — I find, by a letter to your mother, as well as by the relation of your uncle Walter, that you increase in stature, of body as well as of mind. — The mind is the measure of the man. — Don't eat too much. — Be temperate. — Vigorous health, and a plentiful table are great temptations. — A keen appetite indulged will do that by degrees, which a knife would do in a minute. — I say nothing about your friends here, excepting my own family, because they will write to you by this opportunity. — We are all well, and expect to see you in the course of a few months. — Present my regards to Judge & Mrs Dana, and their children. — I view your name at length with pleasure, and am affectionately Yrs Wm Ellery. —

P.S. You say nothing about the three tickets I desired you to request Judge Dana to buy for me. — The lottery is drawing.

Wm Ellery
1795
~~Feby~~ April 27

† One Extract

Mr
William E. Channing
Cambridge
Commonwealth of
Massachusetts

Free

Uncorrected copies — all but one(?) of the Ellery letters

No.1. Addressed " Mr. William Channing
New London
Connecticutt "
Forwarded by Mr. Stockton.

Newport July 1oth. 1794
My dear Sir,

Upon the receipt of your uncle's letter, your Ma ∅∅ consulted Mr. Rogers, and here follows a copy of his note to her."The four Evangelists, Acts, Romans and the Epistles are required from cantidates for Entrance into Cambridge University;- but in instances of such complete Latin Scholars as I know William to be, I doubt not they would dispense with the Epistles provided he passes a good examination in the three former viz Evangalists, Acts & Romans."

You have only to persue the Greek until the time of admission with your usual application, and I will pledge myself for your honorable reception into the bosom of my alma mater. If there are in the Romans some things hard to be understood in point of language as well as sentiment, and if you can construe them I should think there would not be great difficulty in your construing thr Epistles, especially when I consider the progress you have made, and that it is not your mode to skim over the surface of things.

You must enter College this year by all means, and hasten to obtain an liberal education at an expence which wil be greatly diminished by the spontaneous offer of your benevolent uncle Dana. He will be a father, and his wife will be a mother to you, and if you should behave as well while you live with him as you have always done, and I have told him I am sure you will always do, and his valuable life should be continued, it is highly probable that his recommendation may place you in an advantageous situation when you shall have proceeded from College, - But the fairest prospects are not always attended with success.- We must take such measures as appear to be reasonable, be industrious, virtuous and pious, and leave the event to that Being who knows best how to dispose of us.- To his care I commend you, and am affectionately

Yours

Wm. Ellery.

No.2. Addressed " Mr. William E. Channing
Cambridge
Commonwealth of
Massachusetts.

Newport 22nd - April 22nd 1795.

Dear Sir,

I received your letter without a date by your uncle Walter, and am happy to find that you impressions in a former letter were not true indicators of your feelings when you ∅∅ wrote it. Indeed I did not know very well how to reconsile them with that disposition of heart of which I had found you to be so eminently possessed.- A man who is insensible to his faults will not endeavour to correct them, and he is not a friend who will not point them out whenever they occur.- Physicians some times gild the Pills which they administer to females, and if you should be of that profession you may find it necessary, but I am neither a gilder nor a dauber and to persue the Metaphore, my patients has too much firmness and good sense to refuse a dose which may prove beneficial, because it is either bitter to taste or coarsly put up.-- Some

things, like the little book administered to St. John, although as sweet as honey to the mouth, yet they make the belly bitter. Other things although exceedingly unpalatable, yet are warming, tonic and invigorating.

I am not offended by a few spots or blots which negligence hath dropped, or unwary human nature. This observation you will recollect to have seen in Horace , whom you are, it seems, now studying, and who though justly reprehensible for his objections, hath liberally disseminated through his Arte Poetica, his Satires and his Epistles mostvexcellent maxims and rules of life.- I have lent my Horace to I dont know who, and it has not been returned; otherwise I would have given you his observation in his own words,- you will find them in his Arte Poetica.

But although a close attention to ~~small things~~ matters substantial may lead to inattention to small things, yet it is a fact that the latter tends to the neglect of things of real importance; and it is as true that the happiness of life consists in a number of little things, as that any portion of matter is infinately divisible, that one hundred cents make a dollar, that habits are formed by degrees, or that a man's felicity consisteth not in the abundance which he possith. And let me add that nothing ought to be esteemed a trifle, an inattention to which may cause any degree of unfairness.

I wish I could study Homer and Xenophon with you for I find , by now and then reading the Greek Testament with Edmunds, my memory is refreshed and I should be glad to recover a part at least of that sonorous beautiful language.- The present course of your studies is useful. Latin you are well enough aguainted with. Greek you will easily master. Mathematics, and natural Philosophy, are useful in every profession and occupation, and therfore merit particular attention. English Grammar and Rhetaric, assist greatly in speaking and writing correctly persuasively and forcibly. History furnishes us with a knowledge of the customs & manners od former nations and people, the Revolutionsin governments, the progress of society, and is a pleasing and instructive Study.- The Revolution in France will, I hope terminate in a continuation of government favorable to Liberty and Public Happiness. This will form a closer connection between us and them , increase our mutual intercourse and render a knowledge of their language more than a polite accomplishment,- highly beneficial.-

It gives me great satisfaction to be imformed(of) your behavior has recommended you to the esteem of the Govenors of and the Stidents in College and to the family where you reside, and that you bid fair to surpass the expectations of all your friends. Go on my young friend and prosper! - I find by a letter of your mother's as well as by the relation of your uncle Walter, that you increase in stature of body as well as of mind.- The mind is the measure

Vigorous health, and a plentiful table are great temptations. A keen appetite indulged will do that by degrees which a knif would do in a minute.- I say nothing about your friends here excepting my own family, because they will write to you by this opportunity. We are all well and I expect to see you in the course of a few months.- Repeat my regards to Judge ~~Dana~~ & Mrs. Dana and their children.I view your name at length with pleasure, and am affectionately Y

Yrs.
Wm.Ellery
P.S. You say nothing about the two tickets I desired you to request Judge Daniels buy for me. The lottery is drawing

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Newport October 21,1794.(Addressed to"Mr. William Channing"
Dear Sir.

I believe I do not owe you a letter;but I owe to you regard and affection and thesedictate this friendly epistle.6

It gave me great satisfaction, when I was at Cambridge, to find that you was attentive to your studies, and that the interval was filled with reading some useful books;- but among them I do not recollect that I saw that best of books, the Bible . This ought by no means to be neglected. It should be the man of your council and the guide of your youth.If it should not be generally read at College this can be no good objection to its being daily read by you.-You are not so conceited as to conceive that your reason is a sufficient guide as to despise instruction and to be taught of God.- To be a disbeliever in God and the Gospel of his Son, however fashionable it may be in France,the Mother of fashions, I hope it will never be the Vogue in the United States, or in any part thereof.- Avoid a multiplicity of College Aquaintance especially such as think it manly to ridicule the Scriptures, or neglect their studies,and devote themselves to their pleasures.- you may treat all with civility, and to this you will be led by your natural dispotion;-but be intimate with few, and in making your choise be directed by their virtue, their attention to their studies, their goodness of dispositio and their regard for peace and good order. Youth are apt to th think themselves wiser than their teachers, andthis induces them to draw characters of their Instructors, which are not the best likenasses of the Originals; and I dare say as soon almost as you was matriculated you was entertained with such Portraits.- We do not cordially receive instruction from those of whom we have imbibed an unfavorable impression opinion; therefore pay no regard to the smart , adroit characturists at College;- but think favorably of its Officers , and Governors; and if any of them have some percularities, pass them by and make the most of such instruction as they ( )communicate, and be obiedient to the Laws.

You are placed in a family where you will receive the kindest treatment,- this you will repay by a constant disposition to oblige your Uncle and Aunt,& will make yourself agrable to their children and thewhole family,;~~where you will be tempted to indulge in eating~~ In a family where you will be tempted to indulge in eating , which is unfavorable to study, for A Hallus ciborum non est hallus liboreum.- Be temperatein your meals diligent in your studies, and virtous in your conduct- and may God bless and preserve you, Yrs Affecty. Wm. Ellery
Present my love to Frank Dana and his brothers and sisters.

Newport Nov.r 10th 1796

Dear Sir,

Your letter of the 21st. of Oct.r last needed no Apology, and indeed I doubt whether in the happiest situation you could have composed a better.— you are one of the most favoured men.— for amidst the ebullition of wit, and peals of laughter, and emptiness of brains you appear to be intirely collected and attentive to your business,— and better still, with a bad pen and worse ink you have written a fairer and a more legible hand, than I believe you ever did before. The lines of your letter too are nearly strait and parallel, not up and down, and zig zag as they used to be.— What may not be expected, or rather what do you promise the epistle will be when you shall be retired, and furnished with proper implements for writing &c —

If there should be a Dictionary of physical terms, I think it ought to be in the College Library. Perhaps a Dispensatory might be of some use ~~to the~~ your respect or a common Dictionary.— With these and your knowledge of the Greek and Latin languages, I should think you would be able to read the ~~medical~~ medicinal books recommended with understanding.— I agree with Dr Warren so far, that a clearer idea can be obtained of the human body,— and I would add if it were to the point, of any other body or object, by an actual view; than by written description; but why are cuts and explanations given in books,— are they

they intended to give imperfect ideas, and wrong notions of the parts of the human body and of their disposition? — I believe not, and altho' the foregoing observation be just, yet I humbly conceive great advantage may be derived from written descriptions, and from good Cuts. — However I wish you may have an opportunity to attend dissections. Are none made in Cambridge? —

I had an opportunity of seeing in Philadelphia to see a waxen representation of a male and female human body. — The external and internal parts, and their disposition, as the Surgeon said who exhibited them, were exactly conformable to Nature. The Thorax was made up of parts and put together in such a manner as to be easily opened, and upon opening it the internal parts all appeared in their proper places, and proportion. The principal organs were taken out, that a near view might be had of them, and the Surgeon, who owned those Representations, gave his audience an ingenious lecture on their uses, and on the human economy. — If there were such in the College I believe as much might be learned from a view of them, and perhaps more, than from the dissection of a real body; — for beside the disgust which attends the view of the latter, I imagine the view is obscured by the blood and juices which must suffuse many of the parts on that occasion. — The first may by use be overcome, — but the latter I suspect cannot be prevented. — If there should be no dissections in Cambridge Dr. Warren, I should think, would, upon application, admit you to attend them in Boston. — I think there is a good Skeleton in your Museum. Some Advantage may be made from a view of that. — If we cannot have all the opportunities we could wish to obtain knowledge, the only way is to make the best use of such as we can have. —

The knowledge and practice of our duty will afford the greatest happiness to ourselves, and be useful to others. — What think you

of the public good being the principle of morality?

Any time spent in bed more than enough to recruit nature is not only unhealthful but immoral. If you are attached to a bed, and how are you to get rid of this attachment? Eat no supper or sup sparingly and early, and go to bed early. Eating plentiful and late suppers produce unquiet sleep, night mares, and what not, and these are attended by stupid, heavy feelings in the morning, which we expect to get rid of by a little more sleep, a little more slumber, a little more folding of the hands to sleep,- and thus a useful part, the most useful part of time is dozed away. Poverty pursues with her meagre, haggard train; or bloated Indolence with the Hippo, and all the Terrors of a disordered fancy; from which the good Lord delivers us. — A long walk towards evening disposes to rest soundly;- if the weather will not admit of this exercise, saw wood, or dance. — It is sound sleep which refreshes. Sr. Elliot did not wish to be in bed more than five or six hours ~~in bed~~. I asked him how he could be satisfied with so little sleep? He answered that he believed he could sleep as much in five or six hours, as most people did in eight or nine;- and so may you if you follow the foregoing prescription.- Consider how much time you will save in this way, how much knowledge, how much health, and how much happiness you will gain, and do not I beseech you sleep over this advice. — I do not wonder that universal ideas don't break your rest. Universal terms there are,- but all our ideas are particular.- Such speculations are not highly useful. — Short & sound sleep is definitely better. — If this letter should not produce it I shall be mistaken. May you always preserve a sound mind in a sound body, and restless Gallegashins.- My regards to all friends Uncle & Aunt Stedman have had a nice time of it.

Yr affect.

Wm Ellery

Mr
William E. Channing
Cambridge
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Honored by
Squire Stedman

Wm Ellery
Nov 1796

Addressed to "Mr. William E. Channing, Cambridge
Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Honoured by Squire Stedman"

Newport Nov. 10th. 1796.
Dear Sir,

Your letter of the 21st. of Oct. last needed no Apology, and indeed I doubt whether in the happiest situation you would have composed a better.- you are one of the most favored men, for amidst the ebullition of wit, and peals of laughter, and emptiness of brains you appear to be entirely collected and attentive to your business,- and better still, with a bad pen and worse ink you have written a fairer and a more legible hand, ~~hand.~~ than I believe you ever did before. The lines of your letter are too nearly straight and parallel, not up and down and zigzag as they used to be.- What may not be expected, or rather what do you promise the epistle will be when you shall be retired and furnished with proper implements for writing?

If there should be a Dictionary of physical laws, I think it ought to be in the College Library. Perhaps a Dispensary might be of some use to you or a common Dictionary. With these and your knowledge of the Greek and Latin Languages, I should think you would be able to read the medical books recomended with understanding.- I agree with Dr. Warren so far, that a clearer idea can be obtained of the human body, and I would add if it were to the point, of any other body , or object, by an actual view than by written discriptions, but but why are cuts and explainations given in books.- are they intended to give imperfect ideas, and wrong notions of the the parts of the human body and of their disposition?.-I believe not, and although the foregoing observation be just, yet I humbly conceive great advantage may be derived from the written discriptions, and from good books,- HoweverI wish you may have an opportunity to attend dissections . Are none made inn Cambridge? I had an opportunity at Philadelphia to see a ~~waxen~~ waxen representation of a male and female human body.-

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Yrs, affacty.

Wm Ell

(signature torn)

Newport January 29th 1797

Dear Sir,

Newport January 29th 1797

Extract

Newport January 29th 1797

I have nothing in view at present in writing, but to obtain the pleasure of soon perusing another of your entertaining Letters. Whether your letters be the result of design, or start from the spur of the occasion they deserve commendation, and however I may be naturally disposed to censure I believe you have found me not averse to bestow praise when it is merited. After this you will I trust suffer me to mention that in neither of your letters by Mr. Alston did you say a single word about any one of the family where you reside. We conclude from your silence that they were all well. I regret your disappointment about a School; but if half the advantages may be derived from the solitude which the vacation has brought to you, that Zimmerman talks attributes so prettily to that condition of existence, it will have a happy influence on your mind and heart. The mode in which you proposed to pass the Vacation will be attended with good consequences. If by it you should not learn any new truths. Old ones will thereby be well established in your memory. It is said that there are but few leading Truths. Their number I do not recollect to have been ascertained by any Writer. It has cost you

two years to learn one. — You certainly cannot mean that you have learned more than one in that time. — If you look back and compare the state of your mind when you entered College with its present state you will find that your scientific store has been considerably augmented. Reading without reflection to be sure would be of little or no advantage. It would be like an attempt to fill a sieve, or the vessels of the Danaides; — but it is almost impossible to read without some reflection; especially books which require attention, and if any thing sticks so much is retained which may be converted to some good use. — However I would not insinuate that such books as you read may be cursorily run through, or that deep reflection ought not be employed on the subjects of your studies. — The first would be a loss of time, the last will be attended with the advantages you mention. — There is no such thing I believe as a solitary, isolated truth. — The laws by which both the natural and moral world are governed, are all connected. The knowledge of one leads to the knowledge of another. — Hence knowledge is progressive. — But alas! such imperfect beings as we are can know only in part. — Our great business is to learn what will be useful to ourselves and others, — and this is to be gained partly from our own observation of others and partly from the experience of others. — If half of the books which have been written were destroyed, it would be well for

the world.— Of this I am sure, if three fourths of the ideas I have received from reading were to be instantly and intirely expunged from my mind I should rejoice. They only serve to interrupt my contemplations. They start up and appear in the best company my mind can furnish, and they are so impertinent that altho I kick them out they will return and plague me with their visits.— If I had as good a command over them as the good Centurion had over his Soldiers it would be more tolerable; but when I tell them to go they wont budge, and there is no getting rid of some of them without a downright quarrel, and throwing every thing into confusion.— A comparatively small number of well selected books is enough. There is no end when an itch for it is indulged. There is a cacoethes as well as scribendi. Lest you should think I was with the latter, altho I wish you may when you open this hasty piece, be stimulated by the former, I shall, after referring you to the bearer for an account of the condition of your friends here, subscribe myself

Yours affect. friend

Wm Ellery

their last letters both originates from the same principle; a desire of

Addressed to "Mr. Wm. E. Channing. Cambridge "

Newport January 29th. 1787/ 1797

Dear Sir,

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Your affecte. friend
Wm. Ellery

Addressed to "Mr. William E. Channing Cambridge Massachusetts"

Newport May 2nd. 1798

Dear Sir.

This Election day is Election day. All is hubbub & I hav not time to answer your letter fully.-

I think you are well calculated for an instructor in Righteousness , and if the Divine Providence should direct you to and place you in the desk. I think you will make a shining Light although you should not be placed in a golden candlestick. Indeed utility more than money ought to influence us; though a little of that stuff as Nat Gardiner, Mr. Dana can give you his character , used to say was necessary, necessary to give the conveniences of Life, and to keep us clear from the spatterings of some Mans dunghill; but he who depends upon it, would find that it would prove an Egyptian reed which would snap and pierce him under the fifth rib.- I know you are not avaricious; but I trust you have a due share of laudable ambition, and if you should become a Minister of the greatest of Monarchs, the King of Kings, I could wish you might be a Minister of a large populous , wealthy town ; because you will would in such a Station be more likely to exert and display your abilities than in a more confined situation.-But perhaps you might be as happy in a Country Village with a few acres of land to improve for exercise, fresh air to breath, and a little light, neat wife with her short white gown black shirt etc. to superintend the family, and solace and cheer you with her conversation, as in a large city, confined air, and a lofty Mansion.- Where ver, and in what business soever you may be , may the Great Shepard of Isreal feed, protect and support you!

You are reading Hume's Histy. of England. It is a fine piece of historical compesition, but I believe he is not so faithful and impartial as the dry Rapin.- Henry's history I prefer; although it is not written in the elegant style of Hume. I prefer it for its arrangement , and perhaps I may be prejudiced in its favor on account of its being reccomended by the late Ld. Mansfield.- They who do not write the history of the times in which they live, must depend upon tradition or their Predecessors for the facts they relate .- They can only arrange and adorn them. Tacitus is remarkable among the Latins for that sagacity you speak of -- and Livy was a painter .He excelled in discription.- I admire his history of Charles Robertson arranges his matter justly , and mixes simplicity with ornament in a masterly manner.- I admire his history of Charles Fifth.- But I am not clear that he has done justice to Mary Queen of Scotts,- and his history of South America seems to have too much the air of a Romance.-

Dear Sir. Newport May 2nd 1798

This is Election day. all is hubbub & I have not time to answer your letter fully.

I think you are well calculated for an Instructor in Righteousness, and if the Divine Providence should direct you to and place in you the desk I think you well make a shining light although you should not be placed in a golden candlestick. Indeed utility more than money ought to influence us; though a sattle of that stuff as Nat Gardner, Mr Dana can give you his character, used to say was necessary, necessary to give us the conveniences of life, and to keep us clear from the spatterings of some Mans dunghills: but he who depended upon it, would find that it would prove an Egyptian reed which would snap and peirce him under the fifth rib. — I know you are not avaricious; but I trust you have a due share of laudable ambition, and if you should become a Minister of the greatest Monarch, the King of Kings, I could wish you might be a Minister in a large, populous, wealthy town; because you would in such a station be more likely to exert and display your abilities than in a more confined situation. — But perhaps you might be as happy in a Country Village, with a few acres of land to improve & a[illegible] for exercise, fresh air to

breathing, and a little tight, neat wife with her short white gown, black skirt, &c to superintend the family, and please and cheer you with her conversation, as in a large city, confined air, and a lofty Madam. — Wherever, and in what business soever you may be, may the Great Shepherd of Israel feed, protect and support you! —

You are reading Hume's Hist. of England. It is a fine piece of historical composition, but I believe he is not so faithful and impartial as the dry Rapin. — Carrie's history I prefer; although it is not written in the elegant style of Hume. I prefer it for its arrangement, and perhaps I may be prejudiced in its favour on account of its being recommended by the late L^d. Mansfield. — They who do not write the history of the times in which they live, must depend upon tradition or their Predecessors for the facts they relate. — They can only arrange and adorn them. Tacitus is remarkable among the latins for that sagacity you speak of, — and Livy was a painter. He excells in description. — Robertson arranges his matter justly, and mixes simplicity with ornament in a masterly manner. — I admire his history of Charles fifth. — But I am not clear that he has done justice to Mary Queen of Scots, — and his history of South America seems to have too much the air of a Romance. —

Read for yourself, and reflect upon what you read, and exercise your own judgment. Jeffrey's

only my poor opinion. —

We are applying to Congress for defense of our harbours, and have much at heart the making a Causeway across Hog Island ferry; but whether Congress will undertake it or not is uncertain. — Without a safe and easy passage to this island from the Main, we cannot reasonably expect assistance from Massachusetts. — If Britain go to war against us they will make a first and capital point to take and secure the possession of the harbour & Island. They know their advantages well. — When they were here, they considered the fort on Goat island, now called fort Wolcott, and a battery on Rose Island, with 60 or 70 line of battle, which, with this fort and a cut in the narrow battery, & sufficient defense against any British Naval force; while their troops would prevent any of Britain from landing. —

We have still a number who seem to be too much attached to the French, notwithstanding the dispatches our Envoys. It is difficult to subdue old prejudices. I am apprehensive for our Envoys, and heartily wish their safe home. — I am glad the Judge did not go. I know that the Judge he would not have suffered himself to be drawn from the line of prudence by French cajoling or menace; but they would have hurt his feelings and his health.

You will read him this page. — I propose to wait upon you on my mother's Commencement if nothing adverse should occur. — In the meantime write to me. —

Present my affectionate regards to Judge and Mrs Dana, to Martha, Edmund, to Francis whom you and the little girls. — and believe me to be

Send the letter directed to Mr Sherman by a private opportunity if one should soon offer, if not by the stage or Post. — with great esteem

Yr. friend Wm Ellery

Mr.
William E. Channing
Cambridge
Massachusetts

Wm. Ellery
May - 1796

Addressed to "Mr. William E. Channing Cambridge Massachusetts" C

Newport May 2nd. 1798

Dear Sir.

This ~~Election day~~ is Election day. All is hubbub & I hav not time to answer your letter fully.-

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with great esteem

Yr. friend Wm. Ellery

Send the letter directly
to Mr. Stedman by a private opportunity if one should soon off offer, if not by the stage or Post.

Addressed to "William E. Channing Richmond State of Virginia"

C

Newport April 13th. 1799
Dear Sir:

I acknowledge with pleasure and gratitude the receipt of your dateless letter and of the four sticks of Tobacco which which acompanied it. Two of them I delivered to your brother Francis, and one of these he will send by the Cutter, which is now here, to your Uncle Henry. I have not yet tasted, but I have smelt the tobacco , and I believevitbwill prove to be good good. You are indeed fortunate not to be in the practice of chewing tobacco. To say no worse of it it is a nasty practice. and like some other things which are disagreable in the first use of them , when the use of tobacco becomes habitual it is almost impossible to relinquish it . There is not an inviolabl connection between Tobacco and Gregg; but I have observed that the great drinkers of Gregg, are generally great chewers of Tobacco. I could account I believe for this grand/alliance. but it would take up too much of my paper.- I am happy to hear that amidst the luxury of Richmond you are rigidly temperate, and that you prefer toast and water to gregg and whisky.- You say nothing of Wine. I suppose you take a little now and then for the stomach's sake, asthe judicious and pious Paul advised young Timothy to do.

No 1. To William S. Shaw Quincy - (1798)

+ Copy - Entire "Newport" (postmark Oct 10)

"My dear Shaw,

And are you so ceremonious that you could not write to me first, though it was only to tell me Where you were, & where I might direct a letter to you? Walter has informed me that you are at Quincy but before this intelligence I was utterly in the dark as to your place of abode - I can clearly discover from Walter's ~~first~~ last letter that you doubt the sincerity & continuance of my friendship - Injurious suspicion! How have I incurred it? Oh Shaw! you wrong me - Have you lived four years with me & ~~have~~ do you know so little of me as to think that time or any new attachment can tear from me the memory of "joys that are past"? No they are entwined with the fibres of my heart, with the threads of my existence & it is only by rending these asunder that you can destroy the melancholy recollection of our mutual happiness - I still remember your social fire, how we collected round it, shortened the long winter nights by nuts, segars, & social converse & strengthened the ties of friendship which united us together. I was then supremely happy. I can still remember our walks by moonlight - how we strolled over the common or took the solitary road to the judge's - the

leaned on each others arms for support; the gracious
warm in friendly argument; the jarrings which
sometimes prevailed among us only sweetened
the concord & harmony which succeeded them.
Oh William the memory of these days will be ever
fresh within me; It has drawn many tears down
my cheek, & embittered the few joys which heaven
has left me. I am sensible that my happy days
have passed & I can only weep for them. I am now
"a waif on the worlds wide common". My walks are soli-
tary; no friendly voice to cheer me; no congenial soul to
make a partner of my joy or sorrows. I am indeed in
the midst of my family with the best of mothers brothers
& sisters. But alas! I have no friend. There is a beach
about a mile from the town. I never saw such
magnificence, grandeur, & sublimity as the wild
scenery of nature here presents to you, the towering
& craggy rocks, the roar of the waves, the foam with
which they dash on the shore, their irregular succes-
sion. & the boundless ocean before you, all contribute
to inspire you with awe & rapture. Here I go once
a day. I compare my fortune to the billows before me
I extend my arms toward them, run to meet
them, & wish myself buried beneath them. Some-
times my whole soul ascends to the God of nature & in
such a temple I can not but be devout. These
are my amusements. I am either borne to heaven

on "naptures wing of fire" or else I am plunged into the depths of despair. How different from my situation at college! There I had friends to fly to when the world looked gloomy, & I had <u>enemies</u> on whom I could pour that spleen which I now vent upon myself. Here I brood over Melancholy. There I forgot my miseries in a circle of friends & equals. I am now on the point of changing my mode of life. New prospects have dawned upon me. A field has opened for exertion. I mean to rouse all my energies, shake off this lassitude of soul & loose my sorrows in business. God knows what success will attend me. I mean to do my duty & I feel careless about the event. I love misfortunes when they spring from a resolute adherence to virtuous conduct. I trust that my burdens will be no heavier than I can bear, & as I wipe the sweat from my brow I shall be cheered when I think that the struggles which I make are the struggles of honest indastry. I suppose you know the profession which I mean to follow. Yes, Shaw, I shall be a minister, a shepherd of the flock of Jesus; a reformer of a vicious, & an instructer of an ignorant world. My hold on life is feeble, my hopes of happiness on earth are few. I look forward to a better country, ~~I look forward~~ & while I am journeying toward it myself, I wish to lead others the same way. I know Shaw that you never ~~were~~ religious & I wish that in your political career you would sometimes look beyond the strife, crimes, & intrigues of

nations to the harmony & blessedness of the christian society in another state. We shall take different courses in life but we shall meet in the grave. We shall bow before the same tribunal & shall rejoice for ever in the same heaven, & join in the same celebration of Almighty love. You will think that I have grown quite ministerial, but, believe me, I cherished the same sentiments in college as I do now. In my view religion is but another name for happiness & I am most cheerful when I am most religious. I wish you, Thaw, to write me immediately. Do you mean to go on to Philadelphia with the President. Can I not enclose letters to you for Walter from Richmond & cannot you forward them to Boston? Can you not visit Richmond to see me? do write me a little politics. What does Talleyrand mean by his late change of tone towards this country? How was Mr Gerry received by the people? What is the President's opinion of Buonaparte's destination - Thaw! you are highly favored. You bask in the sunshine of royal favor. Do make your friend wiser by it. Does Walter retain any of his jacobin principles. You may show this letter to him if you please; he is another self. I am entirely unacquainted with your Uncle. I once saw Mrs. Adams at Judge Dd's. Should she remember me I would thank you to present my best respects to her. I hope you can read my letter. My handwriting partakes of the irregularity of my feelings. Yr sincere friend W E. Channing."

Walter desired to send my letter under cover to the President but I did not know whether it would be proper. Pray inform me. —

(No 2.)

+ To Mr Wm. S Shaw Quincy. (1798.)

Extract "Newport Oct 18."

"My dear Shaw,

I wish to write you a few lines in behalf of my friend Wainwright. You know his merits. He is as dear to me as "the muddy drops which visit my sad heart." He has a glowing heart, a quick sense of honor & unconquerable spirit. He has this day arrived at Newport & communicated to me his determination to enter the navy. I believe that he will render himself distinguished in the ~~army~~ service. Should a midshipman-ship become vacant, could you not represent him to your Uncle as a person worthy of that post. I know of no man who could hear a cannon ball whistle round his ears with so little concern as Wainwright. It appears to me that he will one day rise to command in the navy. He is all resolution, all soul, all head. I know him thoroughly. His activity & restlessness ~~harried~~ of disposition hurried him into dissipation. Give this a right direction & you will behold a great man. Tomorrow I set sail for Virginia. Oh Shaw! the parting tear will flow. Do write me soon & oblige your friend by forwarding the design I have communicated to you in this letter as far as possible.

Yrs Wm C. Channing.

Copy under head of Richmond

1798? Nov.?

Eudge Dale

My dear Mother

A favorable opportunity has just offered by which I can write to all my friends without subjecting them to the expence of postage. I begin with you. To you I owe the highest obligations. The anxiety & tenderness which you discovered at my departure from Newport will never be forgotten. I wish that my friends were not so deeply interested in my welfare. It makes both them you & me unhappy. Every misfortune & experience is aggravated, by thinking on the pain which it will occasion them. I often wish that I had been thrown loose on the wide ocean of life without one friendly eye, to watch with a friendly care my various successes & shed a tear over my follies & miseries. When I was dashing over the billows on my passage to Newyork I felt no fear for myself, but I was distressed when I remembered that I had left a mother behind me who was trembling with anxiety, lest her son might be buried in the merciless waves. I understand from Frances's letter that you had many high winds after I left you; & did not every gale come to me loaded with the sighs of a mother? I mention this, because I wish you not to make yourself unhappy by your concern, for me. I know that I am far from home, where

nothing but your good wishes can reach me. I am far from your social fireside. I am neither a sharer in your joys, nor the object of your fond attentions. But still the same Sun shines upon us, the same providence is extended to both of us, & the same God who protects & blesses you will watch over me & mete me out a portion of happiness. Our distance from each other cannot remove either us from our common parent. Do ~~not indulge then~~, I ~~beseech you~~, ~~any fears reflecting~~ me. It is this truth which consoles me in my absence from home, & I wish that it might banish from your bosom those corroding fears for my safety, which added to the load of your domestic cares must make life wearisome to you. I feel every day more & more attached to my new abode. I am treated with every attention which hospitality can bestow. My duties are neither ~~no~~ numerous nor irksome, & I can find time enough for study. I am resolved to prosecute Divinity. My highest hopes of happiness are beyond the grave, & I cannot do more good to mankind than by teaching them also, to lay up treasures where moth nor rust cannot corrupt them. My dear Mother, though I have so lately left you, I begin already to anticipate the moment when I shall see

you again. Time has swifter wings than the eagle. Months & years will fly away & with what rapture shall I press you all to my bosom. Hope is the anchor of the soul. I lean upon it perpetually. I paint more blissful scenes in prospect than I have ever yet ~~over yet~~ experienced, & should they prove as baseless as the fabric of a vision, I can still boast of the happiness which they give in anticipation. I dare not ask, but I should like to receive a few lines from you. Will you give love to all my friends. I feel under great obligations to Mr Ladd for his attention to me while in Alexandria. I found his doors always open to me & a welcome reception. I have several letters to write. ~~I~~ ~~hope you will excuse the~~ ~~brevity~~ ~~shortness~~ This must serve as an apology for my present haste. I know not when another opportunity will offer.

Till then Consider me yr affectionate Son

WE Channing

Mrs Lucy Channing

Newport

Rec'd

(No 3) This letter although vehement is very characteristic (1798)
W has the large many sided judgments and the earnest freedom of his Correspondent
+ Morrow It is very illustrative of the feeling of the times - I should print it.
1 pap - abt 2

T. Wm. S. Shaw. Philadelphia
November 28 - Richmond

"My dear Shaw

Yours of October 15 reached me at Richmond November 15th. I had not received a letter before for three weeks, & I thanked you from my heart for your kind attention - And you have lost a sister! I will not direct you to the source of consolation; You have found it already. You have applied the healing balm of religion to your wounds, & blessed the heavenly physician whose bleeding body was nailed to the cross to procure you such relief. + You may see from my letters the warmth with which I have embraced the Christian cause. Would to God that I could resign every worldly prospect & bend my whole soul to improvement in religion & the diffusion of the truths of the gospel. Oh Shaw! It cuts me to the heart to see the contempt & irreverence with which the name & the worship of the "majesty of heaven" are treated by the generality of mankind. Do we not offer a new cup of Gall to our crucified Saviour! Are we not as inhuman as the Jews! Do we not plat like them a crown of thorns for the head of our redeemer - They despised him & we are ashamed to acknowledge him). - I should I need an apology for these observations I would say that it is Saturday night - But I know that it is unnecessary - - With respect to your

extract from Walters letters, I would observe that his opinion respecting Howe is not original. Howe was one of the opposition at the breaking out of the war; & the minister, I think it was North, pursued the well known system of English policy in placing him at the head of the army. It is thought that his partiality for America continued after his appointment, & that he omitted many opportunities of crushing the American army - So that it was not merely Howes folly, which gave freedom to our country, but his attachment to our cause. This is only what I have heard from others - I am not able to advance any thing from facts - But I wonder how (Walter) could presume to touch the venerable laurels of Washington. Did not Washington distinguish himself before & after the time of Lord Howes command Did he not show the most consummate skill in improving the advantages which Lord Howe's folly or treason afforded him? - Witness Princeton & Trenton - Let any man read Washingtons own letters & if he will afterwards say that Washington is not a first rate General I will yield the point. When I read (Walters) justification of France in breaking the treaty I began to think that he had taken a few lessons in the school of French Philosophy - I think it worthy of a president of the Directory, & I dare say that if he would communicate it to that honorable body - they would decree

him a place with Condorcet & other "philosophists" in the pantheon. I wonder what Walter will assert next. The rankest Jacobin could not have crowded more offensive matter into the few lines which constitute the extract from his letter. I rejoice with you my friend at the victory of Nelson. Old England forever! I hope that the report is equally true respecting the defeat of Buonaparte's land forces. The directory in their last communication have carried him safe to Cairo; should it be true that he has repelled all human opposition, I would invoke old Nilus from the ooze of his fertilising streams, I beseech him to overflow with his swiftest torrents the land he has long enriched, & sweep this prince of robbers from the face of the earth. There is one question which has arisen in my mind since the late news from the Mediterranean & I think it an important one. Ought not a just policy to be alarmed at the disproportionate greatness & power of the British navy. There is not at present a nation in Europe to dispute with her the empire of the seas. We are exulting at the superiority of the British by sea as we did a few years ago at the superiority of the French by land. We have bitterly rued the latter. Let us avoid the same error with respect to the former. I wish France to fall but I do not wish England to rise on her ruins. We

should be careful that in destroying one scourge of the world we do not give birth to another + I am happy to see that the same odium is every where attached to the name of Jacobin + this is the case even in Democratic Virginia - A Jacobin is synonymous with a dishonest, immoral, factious & disorganizing man - There are many doubts here respecting Mr Marshalls election. I think that he will succeed. Mr Marshall has been much censured at the Northward for his sentiments on the Alien & Sedition Bills. I begin to believe that he is right. He says that they are not unconstitutional. But they have produced an amazing irritation in the public mind. The opposition in Congress were gradually losing their influence with the people in this part of America. The conduct of France was too flagrant to be justified, & her warmest partisans were obliged to confess that the executive had pursued towards her a liberal & pacific policy. Public opinion was rectifying. But the alien & Sedition Bills gave new life to the enemies of Government & blew the dying spark into a flame - You no longer hear government charged with Ingratitude to France - This the Jacobins take care to throw in the back ground - They bring forward the Alien & Sedition Bills.

into the front of the scene, & so successful have they been in exciting alarms, that there are thousands who think their liberties endangered & the constitution violated. You would suppose from their language that they were all in chains that they were beat down to the ground with the load of their oppressions, that Congress like the Democratic negro drivers of Virginia were standing over them with a lash in their hands & scourging them till exhausted nature was spending her last breath in complaints. I have no doubt but a petition will be forwarded to Congress by the legislature of this State for a repeal of these odious acts. Now, I ask, I would ask what good effects have these bills produced. Is the imprisonment of Lyon or the arrest of three or four printers an object to be placed in competition with the union of our country? The alien bill never has & probably never will be carried into execution. The sedition bill has had no effect where it is most wanted. A printer in this city published seditious matter the very day before the circuit court sat here in hopes of a prosecution, & the friends of government passed it by on account of the irritation it would produce, & because they knew that such a prosecution would recommend him to the legis

lature for printer to the State - I wish Government to possess energy as much as any man - but I believe that it is weakened instead of being strengthened by pretending to energy which it cannot support. Is not the tendency of this to bring it into contempt to render its measures weak & ineffectual? Is it not in fine much better to say nothing about sedition when we can not or dare not repress it - I consider my friend that a crisis is rapidly approaching. The question must soon be decided whether the federal government must stand or fall - I understand that one court in this State has already set aside the stamp act as unconstitutional, & proceeded to business without it - There is no doubt but the legislature which meets in this town next Tuesday will take some steps for the repeal of the detestable Sedition Bills, & a gentleman who read some resolves in the Jacobin Gazette of yesterday, has just informed me that one county have expressed their determination of standing by the legislature in whatever measures they will adopt upon this occasion - For my part I care not how soon the contest is decided - Should the worst happen, should my native country be prostrated by the arts & influence of demagogues at the feet of France I will curse it & fervently will breathe the same ah with them who are tainted with the foul impugent it - I never will dwell in the country where

I was born free when it is doomed to groan under a foreign yoke - With tears in my eyes I will bid farewell to the roof which sheltered my infancy, to the tenderest connexions of nature & to the green tomb of my fathers, & take up my abode in a foreign land - from which I boast of my descent, & which my honest ancestors left in hopes of finding times more favorable to liberty & the rights of man -

Tuesday November 30 -

This day the legislature met in this town - The federal party gained a triumph in the choice of speaker & clerk - - I am in hopes from this that Monroe will lose his election as Governor & that nothing will be done respecting the Alien & Sedition Bills - Time however will determine I have been hurried away by politics from giving you the account you desired of my situation &c - Answer this directly - Your last letter was a cordial to me - Give me the Politics of the day. When you write to our dear friend Walter, do desire him to answer my letter from Richmond as soon as he can - In my next I will acquaint you with the particulars of my situation - Direct your letters to me - "to the care of D. M. Randolph". I am as I ever was & shall be

Yrs Sincerely
W. E. Channing.

(over) -

Could you never indose to me a Gazette of Porcupine. or a pamphlet which is worth attention!—

(No 4-) (1799) C

To Wm S Shaw Philadelphia -

Richmond Jan 24 -

My dear fellow,

You will see from the enclosed the spirit of the Virginia legislature - There is no doubt that a separation from the union is intended. Giles is very active & influential -

Yours in haste - W. E. Channing -

C

1799

Dear Brother

January 27

We have just heard of an opportunity to write you and I with great pleasure take my pen to write you and inform you that I am all my time engaged aboard the ship Russell that I expect to sail in four weeks you see I am going to seek my fortune in Batavia and I am going under every advantage possibly Mr Audly Clark is going supercargo unto I expect will take me under his care I am now getting out for sea and Mama is so engaged in making me jackets and trowsers that you must not expect her to write you Walter will inform you of every thing that is new all the family is well except aunt Nanny you must excuse my short letter and bad writing as I have cut my thumb

Henry Channing

PS I forgot to tell you Massy Allen is going to be married in April all Aunt Gibbs is got verry sore eyes

Henry Channing

There is now an opportunity by water

by which mama permits me to write you as I am not
a great letter writer you must not expect a long one
but I will exert myself ~~myself~~ to entertain you at —
being so far from home I suppose you wish to hear very
particulary, We have a grand ship built at warren named
the [illegible]al Green which is to be man'd ~~by~~ in such
a manner that I do not think it will do it honor by a
parcel of Contryman. Mama has met with a great misfotune
our cow was put up in the stable the other night and was
found dead in the morning we could not find out the
occasion of her deccase. we have had a letter from mary all
our friends at Cambridge and Lancaster. are well Robert Stevens
is returned from Boston and since has been seized with a —
violent fever but is now relieved ~~a little~~ Our family is well

Received this from you Affte brother
Walter Channing —

Your correspondents my dear Brother has allowed me the
priveledge of writing a postscript to their elegant epistles your
affectionate letter has given me a full assurance that it w
meet with a most welcome reception ~~affection~~ my si
has not arisen from an abatement of affection No Will
on the contrary absence increases if I can judge from my
feelings it will be lasting as life with each, Once
in three weeks we expect to hear from you by the
do not disappoint us as we feel anxious when the
has elapsed, three Weeks has past since you l
but we hope the next mail will bring us a
love to her for she with her family continues in good health
I must resign my pen to Francis who wishes to add a line
pleasant dreams God bless you ~~from~~

Blindness & a headache with apologize for my not writing a line—
I have suffered much, but have found relief. so that by any light
I read as much as ever — It is midnight now — So adieu — I shall
other write this week — I am projecting & unless all my projects fail
I shall soon be advantageously engaged — but where or when — I
Lardly know —.

Mr. William E. Channing.

Richmond.

Virginia.

Adams -
Hartley -
Johnson -
Stanwood -
1799 -

(No 5) (Richmond) - (1799) -

To Mr. Wm S. Shaw Philadelphia

2 with several extracts marked (marked 'received 26th Feb.')

My dear Shaw.

I have not yet received an answer to my two last letters - But I abhor ceremony; & when I have an hour's leisure & a full heart I cannot enjoy myself better than in communicating my sentiments & feelings to a friend. I am now totally immersed in literature. I have settled a course of reading for three years. & I hope at the end of that time to have knowledge enough to enter on the world. I intend to pursue a course of modern history immediately. I have purchased a set of Russel for 10 dollars; I shall take Belsham's George 3rd for a continuation; I shall gain more particular knowledge of the distinguished reigns by the help of Biographies. I have understood that Hartes Gustavus is a good work. What do you know of it? If it is worth reading & not too voluminous, could you forward it to me. What do you think of Jillies Frederick. I can procure it here if you recommend it. I have already Voltaires Louis XIV. Would you (advise?) &c) Lully's memoirs in this course? I shall (begin?) Russel at Henry VIII of England - I have read all of Hume but the last volume. He does not throw light enough on the rest of Europe - Tell me what books must be added & what retrenched I wish I could get a good Roman & a good grecian history I know of none which is political enough - & which attends to the private life of those nations - Ferguson

will carry me to the termination of the Roman Republic - But I must I wade through Gibbon to get acquainted with the empire? Rather than do this I will wait till I begin a course of ecclesiastical history. What do you know of Whitford's Greece - I shall now read history very differently from what I used to do. I shall read it as a politician & a moralist. I shall found my opinions on Government on what I see to be the effects of different systems & not on idle speculation - I study harder than ever. I have just been reading Priestley's Lectures & have derived considerable advantage from them. I admire above all Fergusons civil society. You lost a treasure, Shaw, when you sold it to me, do buy it again - Do you know any thing of Fergusons other political work - I forget the title of it - What merit has Robertsons North America - Is he like the sun more majestical his setting). I observe in Fenno's Gazette a pompous advertisement about a New Magazine - If you think that Genius & the muses will patronise it you may put my name on the list of subscribers. But be sure first that it is not trash. I am sorry to see Fenno's paper fall away so much - I wish you would enclose to me Porcupines daily paper till you leave Philadelphia & I will pay all the expense - It would be best to subscribe & take your name off when you leave the city. † I am very desirous to see the

debates in Congress. I find this advantage from being in Virginia that I must adopt no opinion on the measures of government without having grounds for it. What does Jenno mean by talking so much about United Irishmen. Is there any serious apprehension of danger from them? I could ask you a thousand questions more. But I will stop till you answer these. By the way can you purchase Priestley's letters to a philosophical unbeliever, & send them on to me. Do not think me troublesome. Would to God that I could return similar good offices. Shall you know with what joy I would serve you. You can forward by private opportunities, (by members of Congress on their return if not before) the books in board which I wish you to forward, & as to pamphlets you may divide them & send them here sheet by sheet. Nothing new has occurred since I last wrote you. You have probably heard that Giles has declared that he wishes a separation of the Union. it is a fact. He is an eloquent man & I have listened to his speeches with a great deal of pleasure. The Virginia legislature contains the best orators I have ever heard. No Senator will be elected in place room of Mr Tazewell. The council are equally divided between two candidates & the Governor

thinks he has not a right by the Constitution to give a casting vote. What a Constitution. ~~What a Constitution~~. Farewell. written "Irdente galand". Do write.

Yr sincere friend

W.E. Channing.

Shaw,

Should you purchase any books for me, will you purchase cheap editions & let me know the price. I wish, Shaw, to establish a more regular correspondence with you & Walter than I have hitherto done. Can we not write once a week to each other. I have ten thousand things to say to both of you.—

(correct)

Dr Sir,

Newport April 13th 1799

I acknowledge with pleasure and gratitude the receipt of your datelefs letter, and of the four sticks of Tobacco which accompanied it. Two of them I delivered to your brother Francis, and one of these he will send by the Cutter, which is now here, to your uncle Henry. I have not yet tasted, but I have smelt the tobacco, and I believe it will prove to be good. you are indeed fortunate not to be in the practice of chewing tobacco. To say no worse of it it is a nasty practice. — and like some other things which are disagreeable in the first use of them, when the use of Tobacco becomes habitual it is almost impossible to relinquish it. There is not an inviolable connection between Tobacco and Grogg; but I have observed that the great drinkers of Grogg, are generally great chewers of Tobacco. I could account I believe for this alliance; but it would take up too much of my paper. — I am happy to hear that amidst the luxury of Richmond you are rigidly temperate, and that you prefer toast and water to grogg or whiskey. — You say nothing of Wine. I suppose you take a little now and then for the stomachs sake, as the judicious and pious Paul advised young Timothy to do.

I am happy to find that you are pleased with the Profession you have chosen. — Purfue those studies and exercises which

which elevate, expand and enoble the mind, and may the Lord give you understanding in all things! I have read Leland. If I remember rightly he resolves the Damoniacism mentioned in the Gospels into bodily indisposition.—I believe he is wrong in this instance, and that the damoniacs of that time were as literally possessed with Devils as were the Gadarene Hogs.—His View or Review of the Deists if carefully read and attended to might be beneficial to the readers of Gospels. His political [illegible] after the manner of the French Philosophers.—I am not acquainted with his moral character;—but Condorcet, who was full in the idea of the perfectability of human nature, turned out to be an infamous, inhuman, ungrateful rascal.[x] He procured his patron and his friend the old Duke de Rochefaucault to be assassinated; because his political sentiments were too moderate for the taste of that Philosopher. I despise french philosophists. Their system goes to the destruction of all government and all morality.—I wish some of the poorer sort of the Godwinites & Jacobinites would push home upon their rich leaders in the doctrines of perfectability & equalization the necessity of a community of Goods, in order to a consistency of conduct with principle. This would make a division among them; for I believe I may confidently say that there is not a rich man of those principles who would share his property with the poor of the pretended fraternity. He might perhaps say be ye warmed, be ye cloathed; but not a cent unless for the purpose of elections, or to carry some other favorite point.—The principles referred to are deistical, and while men are absorbed in luxury, and entertain such high notions of human nature in general, and of themselves in particular, they will not listen with attention to the self denying doctrines of the Gospel, submit to that subordination which is essential to order and happiness, and will oppose themselves even to the

[x] Governeur Morris told me so!—

government of Jehovah. — To stand firm in the midst of such characters requires a great degree of religious fortitude; but I trust persecution is not necessary to preserve your integrity or enkindle your zeal. — The rock on which the true church of Christ is built is not to be overturned by violence, or by undermining. It is a monument which "neither" non imbres edax, non Aquilo impotens

Possit diruere, aut innumerabilis

Annorum series, et fuga temporum". —

I do not altogether agree with you that ~~the~~ [illegible] more favorable to the Church, than Liberty of Conscience and the most unlimited toleration. That the blood of the Martyrs may on some periods have been useful to the dissemination of religion I have no doubt; nor do I doubt that the stake & the faggot will be employed to answer the purposes of the Governor of the World when he shall judge proper; — But a free inquiry into the truths of Christianity I think tends to establish them, and I have no notion at present of being whipt or burnt into Religion. — XX

I am glad that there subsists between you and your Scholars that mutual confidence which flagellation would probably overthrow. — If you should have among your few Scholars an obstinate lad whom private remonstrance and admonition would not reclaim, it would be much better to dismiss him, than to attempt to whip him into order. — Children who are so young as not to be capable of receiving the admonitions of reason are to be governed by the rod. — Spare the rod, and spoil the child — it is made for such children — [illegible] — but was not intended for boys or girls who know good from evil. — Shame sometimes will answer a good purpose, and has been I believe successfully employed in Schools; — but there are some boys who are insensible to what others would esteem disgraceful. — The best way to gain the ascendancy, and to maintain order is to form good rules of government, and to support them by a steady, uniform affectionate conduct. —

We are all well. — I am with great regard

Yrs Wm Ellery —

XX

Wm. Ellery
Rhode Island
April 13. 1799
28
Under seal
Richmond

Newport 15. April. 25

William & Channing

Richmond

State of Virginia

Addressed to "William E. Channing Richmond State of Virginia" C

Newport April 13th. 1799
Dear Sir:

I acknowledge with pleasure and gratitude the receipt of your dateless letter and of the four sticks of Tobacco which acompanied it. Two of them I delivered to your brother Francis, and one of these he will send by the Cutter, which is now here, to your Uncle Henry. I have not yet tasted, but I have smelt the tobacco , and I believevitbwill preve to be good. You are indeed fortunate not to be in the practice of chewing tobacco. To say no worse of it it is a nasty practice. and like some other things which are disagreable in the first use of them , when the use of tobacco becomes habitual it is almost impossible to relinquish it . There is not an inviolabl connection between Tobacco and Grogg; but I have observed that the great drinkers of Grogg, are generally great chewers of Tobacco. I could account I believe for this alliance. but it would take up too much of my paper.- I am happy to hear that amidst the luxury of Richmond you are rigidly temperate, and that you prefer teast and water to grogg and whisky.- You say nothing of Wine. I suppose you take a little now and then for the stomach's sake, asthe judicious and pious Paul advised young Timothy to do.

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I am with great regards

We are all well Yrs. Wm. Ellery

Addressed to " Revd. William E. Channing Boston
Hend. by Mr. Randolph"

Newport Augt. 1st. 1804.

Revd. and Dear Sir;

I sincerely thank you for your kind letter by my son, and my thanks are due to Divine Providence for the health and spirits I have enjoyed with but a few interuptions through a long course of years.

These supported me amidst some severe afflictions and I hope will continue to support me , and that I shall never dispond although the situation and conduct of some of my nearest relatives have been and are such as to wound my feelings deeply at times, and I see no prospect of their becoming better.

My great consolation is that in general I have performed my duty to my children; but when I think of the situation of one of them and the conduct of another clouds darken the evening of my life, and forbid uninterupted repose.

I am not of a complaining temper, and I believe that I shall not lament that I have survived my usefullness. Indeed when I look back on life, and consider what little I have done for the benefit of others, as well as for my own, I seem to have been an unprofitable servant.-

If in the early part of the education of my grandchildren they should have derived any advantage from my conversation and instruction, I should esteem myself amply rewarded by their gratitude, and the thought of having rendered them some service.- The improvements that some of them have made of their time and talents and are making have and will render them respectable and useful, and have reflected, and willl reflect honour on their grandfather.-

Newton May 7th 1792

Writing my dear Brother on the Sabbath may demand some apology; affection and benevolence are striking traits in your character, I feel an assurance you will not condemn your Sisters conduct, numerous have been her cares for a two or three weeks past our little family has claimed my whole attention in our Mothers absence who is now on a visit to Cambride and other friends with Mrs Sayer who accompanied her, sentimental travellers you will exclaim, their good health and spirits will be sufficient compensation for my voluntary attentions what an important charge the care of children that are not your own frequently make an exertion to check my feelings and to conquer my anxious idle fears which result without a cause, but they too often intrude for my peace.

You will undoubtedly be surprised to hear that Francis has left us, he could no longer support his dependant situation at present Cambridge appear the most eligible situation he has not fixd but has it in contemplation to enter into the practice of Law with Mr Braddish who is at present distressed ill to attend his office Francis will therefore take all the business his friends appear much pleased with the idea

Oh Mr Williams! why does fortune separate us but let us not
my Brother repine Heaven has formed us affectionate & endowed
us hearts warm and kind, & and in our attachment we
will ever find something to cheer us, and endear to us existance
for as strong as the ties of affection, imagination frequently leads
me to your solitary Chamber & pass three or four hours in recounting
ing many pleasant and interesting scenes I have been witness
to since you quitted — though sometimes they often proves to
me a source of amusement that for indeed I would not be deprived
of —— Your letter my dear Brother enumerated the Bros
of sober sister dress, are you so ungenerous as to suppose I wear the
cloak & bridesh for convenience? no I have not so despicable an
opinion of your want of charity, in consequence of Francis's
absence you will have an opportunity of forming a more candid
opinion of my honesty —— when I reprobated the cold
and insensible misanthropic hermit I was not wounding the
feelings of tender & affectionate Brother by placing him on
a level with them though the slave of feeling yet do you
ridicule it though entirely ignorant of Love I am not destitute
of tenderness-feeling or whatever you may please to term it and
fair Luna has charms to lull every care to sleep quite charm'd
with your sonnet shall expect the other part with
your account of enthusiasm in your next letter which I shall
expect shortly —— it is my intention if in health this
summer to attend closely to the adieu in the latter part of your letter

Our family has been so circumstanced that I have found it an impossibility to pay that attention which is necessary for improvement a plan I intend having part of the day I shall devote to my Mother and the other to my Chamber when you wish me to throw aside sentimental books I suspect you allude to novels believe me William did indination urge, the want of time would forbid an indulgence I feel no kind of partiality for those kind of writings — Woman is capable of improvements but how frequently does the talents remains conceald — Edmund has left College and preparing to leave his Parents I think him wild and distracted what are his motives none can tell [illegible] will be a continual state of slavery and in all likelihood [illegible] not meet with a congenial mind among his countrymen if I may judge from the illiterate set I have seen and heard of he is fixed and like a rock is immovable — your friends are all in good health Mrs Channing has a charming little girl by the name of Catharine Smith Mr Cutler gave it the name to my great joy, I admire to humble the pride of Church tribe, who have erected an elegant Building called the Church School directly before us on Mr Vernon land — to conceal you cannot therefore wonder we must submit in silence to them as superior beings — have a letter from you to Frances which I shall send on by the first opportunity do not omit writing us and believe me your affectionate and feeling Sister

Ann —

Ann
1799

aft. mar. married to Middleton.

Newport 20. May 25

Mr. William E. Channing
Richmond Virginia

1799.

Richmond October 27 [1799] C

Feb: 20. 1800.

Dear Sir.

I applied to our common friend & brother, Francis, a few weeks ago, to desire him to procure for me a "religious correspondent". I told him that I could not find in Virginia one young man to whom I could express my sentiments on religious subject, or to whose bosom I could confide those feelings which the study of the scriptures inspired in my own. I told him that I wanted a friend, to whom I could propose the difficulties which I found in the Bible, a friend who had devoted his life to the service of his God, to whom I could open my whole heart & talk with the familiarity of a brother. In a late letter he tells me tells me that he had written to you on the subject, & that you were pleased with the idea of such a correspondence. Need I add that this intelligence gratified me. Before this we were brothers. We had pledged our lives & fortunes to serve & defend each other. Shall I tell you that I rejoice at the prospect of ~~cementing~~ strengthening the ties of brotherhood by those of friendship. Believe me, Sir, I shall ever be grateful to my brother for having having recommended me to you as a correspondent, & the only painful sensation which I feel on the occasion is a fear lest you should find the time thrown away which you spend in reading & answering my letters. — I began the stu-

dy of Divinity with attending to the evidences of Christianity I examined with caution & I think without prejudice, & I am convinced that the religion is true. I have now undertaken to acquaint myself with the doctrines of this religion, & to do this I have not applied to any commentators or any authors except the apostles themselves. My object is to discover the truth. I wish to know what Christ taught, not what men have made him teach. I well knew that, if I began with reading polemical Divinity, there were ten chances to one that I should embrace the system of the first author which I studied whether right or wrong. I was certain that, as Christ came to save the world, every truth essential to salvation must be plainly unfolded in the Scriptures. I had also observed that many ministers instead of guiding their flocks to the gates of heaven, had become so entangled in controversy as to neglect their most solemn charge, the saving of men's souls. These are the reasons which have induced me to apply to the Bible, that only source of divine knowledge, & to the Bible alone. The advantages I have derived from such a course seem to prove the propriety of it. I might have found the same truths in other authors, but they could never have made so forcible an impression on my mind. I have been active in acquiring, not passive in receiving the great precepts & doctrines of Christianity & the strength of my conviction is proportioned to the labor I have bestowed. My heart too has been affected as well as my mind enlightened. I have learnt to view every thing as it were through the medium of scripture, to judge of actions by the standard of scripture-morality, & to estimate the

importance of ~~scripture~~ present events by their influence on happiness of another state. Such is the plan which I follow, & such are the effects which I ascribe to it. I would thank you for your opinion on the propriety of it. — I am now studying the Evangelist John & I have met with several passages for these few days past which I know not how to reconcile. Christ says (chap v ver. 31) "If I bear witness of myself, my witness is not true". In chap viii. ver 14) he says "though I bear witness of myself my witness is true." (In chap 7. v. 27) we see the Jews refusing to receive Christ because they knew "whence he was". "When Christ cometh, said they, no man knoweth whence he is". Now in chap 9. ver 29, We find them urging it as an objection to Christ that they "knew not whence he was", though it seems from the preceding quotation that they looked upon this as a mark of the Messiah. In chap 7. ver 28. Christ says "ye both know me and know whence I am". But in chap 8, v 14, he says "ye cannot tell, whence I come". & in verse 19 "Ye neither know me nor my father". I also observe that John represents Christ as reproaching & threatening the Jews for not believing in him. Now I presume that Christ did not require the Jews to receive him as the Messiah unless he declared himself to be the Messiah. But how is this to be reconciled with the reserve which the other Evangelists ascribe to Christ on the subject of his character. He would not suffer the devils who knew him or his apostles to whom he declared himself, to tell the world that he was the Christ, & yet he requires the Jews on pain of eternal death to believe in him. It cannot be said that his miracles proved his character, as some of the old prophets wrought miracles too. These are some difficulties which have struck me, this last week. They do not affect any of the great doctrines of Christianity. But as they are parts of the Bible I wish to understand them, & as they are apparent contradictions they affect the credibility of the

Letter from
Wm E. Channing to Josiah Mantle
Oct 27th 1799

1799. Oct. 27.

Richmond, Oct. 27. '99.

Wm E. Channing.

R. D. Oct 28

95

Revd Joseph M'Kean

Milton

Massachusetts.

to en-
most
rea-

Dr Sir. you must excuse my almost illegible hand-writing. I shall wait impatiently for your answer & would thank you to direct your letter to the care of D M Randolph. Richmond, Virginia. Believe me your sincere friend & humble servt

Wm E Channing

Under head of Theological Studies. 1801 C

Cambridge. July 5.

Honord Sir.

You were kind enough in your letter to Francis to make several apologies for my negligence in not writing you. I thank you for the exercise of that charity which hopeth all things & believeth all things. You have saved me a great deal of trouble. Your indulgence is encouraging. He that is slow to notice offences, is proportionably quick to forgive. I hope I shall not abuse your clemency. I can turn a deaf ear to the rigid exactions of justice, but the mild voice of mercy melts my heart into contrition. Perhaps it is fortunate for you that I have not written. A kind of stupefaction, of mental inactivity, has seized on me. A weight of Lethargy has oppressed all my faculties. My understanding & imagination have been buried under a cloud, & my feelings deadened. every spring of action relaxed. I feel but little interest in any thing, & yet I am not at ease. This insensibility is morbid, the effect of disease, an unnatural state of the mind, a violence on its powers & energies. I do not act nor

feel, yet my sluggishness is not voluntary. I am hemmed in, I am fettered. Like Enceladus I groan under the mountain, I labor to remove it, but still, still it weighs on my breast, & seems to press heavier after every struggle. In fact my late complaint has had more to do with the mind than the body, or rather the body has been affected in such a manner as peculiarly to affect the mind. Imperfect digestion is the ~~great~~ cause of my heaviness. I ~~get~~ ~~better~~. I mean to exercise freely, sleep less, eat less, & study less, till my body gets into a proper state again, & the blood travels faster in my veins. I am much better than I have been. My head is clearer & lighter, My spirits brisker. I have a little of my cold left, but it has quitted my ~~breast~~ & limbs; a little stuffing & irritation in the throat is all I ~~have~~ retain of it. Thus far I have given you a sketch of my situation. You must not expect me to propose any knotty questions in Polemic divinity. I have not yet reentered the schools, but as soon as I return to these fields of holy war you shall hear from me — I hope, sir, this letter will find you also convalescing. We were very sorry to hear of your indisposition. Were I half as much a man as my mother, I should

undertake to prescribe for you, but I leave you in better hands. If you think a journey will be beneficial, I shall be very happy to see you in Bambridge, as will all your friends. My mother will furnish a [redacted] proof of the heathiness of our climate. I dont know when I have seen her in better spirits. We shall hardly be able to do without her. I fear she is too anxious about her children; from the minuteness of her charges, one would suppose the thought us utterly incapable of taking care of ourselves. (But that young man must be helpless indeed who cannot work his way thro the world. I have no fears. The darkness of futurity has no terrors to me. The past is sufficient to teach me confidence in heaven. The hand which has supported will support. I have no right to look forward to an old age venerable & respected as yours. But if death leads to heaven, I shall not have died too soon.) Please to remember me to your family & Believe me

With the greatest respect
Yr affectionate Grandson
Wm E Channing —

Wm Channing

Cambridge 1801-?

July

33

Honble William Ellery Esqr

Newport

Hist Settlement.

April. 16. 1802.

Copy his papers

My dear Uncle.

I have not written you this long time, as I have wanted to know what might be determined about my settlement. I communicated some time ago to the congregation in Federal street my acceptance of their offers. After much deliberation I concluded that this situation was best adapted to my strength & furnished the fairest prospect of usefulness. I requested two months leisure to prepare myself for the office, in hopes that in this period I should be able to determine upon my state of health. The two months have passed. I find myself, on the whole, stronger. I have sufficient strength to perform the duties of the office at present. What may happen, I know not. I think however that when called by the unanimous voice of such a society, I ought not to shrink from the labor, because it is possible that my strength may fail. I have fairly laid before the leading gentlemen of the society the doubts I have about my situation, & have told them that I fear that in the heat

of summer I shall not be able constantly to perform ministerial duty, & that I am willing to defer the ordination to any period however remote. They however think that the interests of the society ~~require~~ recommend an immediate settlement, they expect nothing beyond my ability & are willing that ~~as~~ I should call in help whenever it is needed. Under these circumstances, I think it right to comply. The prosperity of the church shd be the great object of pursuit, & even if sacrifices should be necessary, I would willingly make them. But I am desirous to believe that my health will ~~not~~ be promoted by this measure. I found that I grew strong by preaching ~~when~~ before, & I think that with means of obtaining aid, I shall not be called to greater exertion than I am able to support. The society have mentioned the third Wednesday in May, the 18th of the month as most agreeable for the day of ordination. I hope, Sir, you will be present, & preach the sermon. Your fatherly goodness in connection with me, a stronger motive than your near, for soliciting this favour. In this most solemn act, I wish you to

bear a part. You have had no little share
in conducting me to the choice of the sacred
profession. I ask, I need your advice, devel-
opment & encouragement. No one will feel half the
interest you do in my welfare, no other
person will bring so much affection to the
performance of this part of the solemnity.
The wednesday chosen is that preceding election.
You had better come with an intention of stay-
ing the a week or more with us. If this day
be not convenient, I will get the ordination
postponed to one more agreeable. Do let me
hear soon from you. I feel awed in contem-
plating the magnitude of the duties soon to devolve up-
on me. The church of God, purchased with the
blood of his son; the eternal interests of mankind,
what objects are here presented to me. I ask
yr prayers, that I may have grace to be faith-
ful. I hope yr children are all well.
I hope to see them in the fall. It is a dest-
ant period, but I already began to think of a
journey, if Heaven should so long preserve
me. My regards to all my friends. Ff

Yr affectionate Nephew
W E Channing

BOSTON MASS
APR
1

Revd Henry Channing

New-London

Connecticut

M.L. Channing
Sept. 16th 1823.
To Lawrence

c

Cambridge, Nov. 25. 1802.

Honored Sir.

After the fatigues of preaching and laboring under a severe cold, I can at present write nothing more than is necessary to give you a view of the expence of education in this place. The price of commons is about $1.66 pr week, of tuition about $4 pr qr, of room rent from $ 1 to $1.50 pr quarter. Other incidental expences such as charges for the Librarian, Steward, sweepers, catalogues, etc. amount to $2.50 or $3 .pr qt. Wood, candles, &c you can estimate yourself, the hours being nearly the same here & in Newport, taking into view a chum who will pay half these expences. You must observe, however that in the first year it is difficult to get a room in College, & a room in town will cost $1, pr week, making 50 cts. for each occupant. Board in a family will cost $3, pr week; but those who live in town may still board in Commons. Washing will cost $20, pr annum. I know not that I have omitted any articles, if I have Francis can probably supply the deficiency.

With much respect
Yr affectionate grandson
W.EChanning.

(Ebdorsed by Wm Ellery.)
" W.E.Channing concerning
the expences of a College education
education. Nov. 25th, 1802.

1.66	pr.week	86.32
4.	pr qt.	16
1.50	pr qt.	6.
3.	pr qt.	12.
20.	pr yr. commons	30.
.50	pr week	26.
		176.32-
		4
		705.28

Miss Payne Tuesday Eve 11th 1803. C

My dear Eliza

I rec'd this morning your letter communicating the melancholy tidings of your fathers sickness, & I have since learned that he is no more. The feelings of a child on being called to yield up a parent I can easily conceive, although I was too young when my father was taken to know the extent of my bereavement. I should have fears for you on this occasion, did I not hope that your past sufferings have prepared your mind in a measure for this, did I not hope that you have learned to lean with a filial trust on him who afflicts you. My friend you will not forget, no not for a moment, that it is God, the best of beings the kindest of fathers who gave you the parent you have lost, & to whom you are indebted for all the kind support, the tender care, the faithful admonitions which you have received from your beloved & revered parents, that it is he who wounds & corrects you. In the perfections of his character, in the wisdom, rectitude, & mercy of his providence, in the truths & promises of his Gospel, in his compassion for the fatherless, you will find I trust consolation & support. Do not distrust him, who is love - who is a father when he rebukes, & who rebukes because he is a father, because he is interested in our welfare, because he sees that we have sins which need correction - because he designs to purify us for his presence in Heaven - I know the strength of your feelings. I do not expect that at the first moment of affliction you will be able to fix a steady unwavering eye on the precious truths of our religion. God who knows that we are dust permits us to mourn & I trust compassionates rather than condemns the mourner who sinks under the first shock of unexpected calamity - but you will not I hope long forget the presence

& the righteous will of God - You will open your mind to the supporting views which Christianity affords of the purposes of affliction - With sorrow you will unite patience, confidence humility, & hope. Do give my love to Anna - Tell her that she must consider what I have written to you addressed to her & that it is my earnest prayer for you both that you may suffer as Christians & may learn by what you suffer the Spirit & life of Christians. I have seen your brother. He is calm & expresses a strong interest in you all. He intended to pass through Newport on his way to N Y to take one of you with him. But we have advised him to go in medialely to N Y & he will leave this ~~morning~~ town to morrow morning - I need not tell you that all our family sympathise with you on this affecting occasion. I shall be happy to hear from you

****

Yr sincerely

W E Channing -

1809?

+ Early ministry

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1803 C

this letter is not to inform of my welfare or
health of friends - for if information had been wish
ed - you should have been answered with pleasure -
William I see by the prayer was well. on Wednesday
last - Walter also as I was informed by a Mr Reed
Lucy was Mentioned in a letter from cambridge -
I will not be over Anxious for the Rest - for their
will be found a Micadoe if any ill betide, you
know for the reason of my writing it was to
Make known to the female part of the family
that I shall purchase My butter here as I can have it
to lay down for the hot weather - Inform our good
friend Mrs Codman that I can have what quantity
she wishes - for a shilling a pound put down in the best
manner - the Eggs I shall get for her - Eggs
also if she wishes — I shall send some bush
beans for Ezard to plant - Christopher is
desired to send his piece of cloth - Answer this
by Mr Thayer the part I meane respecting Mrs Cod-
man - the coloured bean to be planted 5 inches a part

M^r L C

Lucy Channing —

1803.

From Elmo Place

Rev.d William Channing

Boston

Favored by
Rev.d Mr Thacher

C

Boston 21st January 1809

My dear Channing

I have the pleasure to inclose for your acceptance a copy of Mr. Adams oration delivered at Plymouth, with the perusal of which I hope you will be gratified. I have neglected writing to you, till this late date, because I have not known what to tell you, or how to advise you on the subject at present, most interesting to you While Dr. Thatcher was alive and the physicians of this town gave it as their opinion, that he would return in better health, I thought, that if you were invited by that parish to be settled as colleague with him, you ought not to have refused, for reasons which I gave you the Sunday evening which we passed together before you left Town but the situation of Brattle Street is now entirely changed and the duties which would involve on you as minister of that church will be infinitely more arduous than your duties as minister in federal Street. You would of course have less time for study which in your profession and in your time of life is the ~~one~~ most sure mean of becoming eminently useful, and where you may be most useful, is a question, I am sensible, ~~that~~ to a heart like yours, of most powerful operation. A strong argument then which I once thought ought to have influenced you in giving the preference to Dr Thatchers, now operates with equal force in favor of federal Street.— A Clergyman can not lay a more permanent foundation to secure his usefulness, than by occupying a greater part of his time for several years in intense study and close retirement, but the mere parochial duties of Brattle Street, independent of writing sermons, would be, to a young man and, unexperienced like yourself, so extremely burdensome for many years as to occupy a greater part of his time, and allow him very little to devote to his professional studies - much less to the acquirement of general knowledge — Profound learning adds dignity and lustre to every character and every profession — its

do

advantages and its delightful pleasures, it would be presumption in me to attempt to delineate, but I have often thought, that one in your profession, has more ardent and stimulating motives to acquire knowledge, than in any other. He thereby adds dignety and in the eyes of the world, attaches respectability to a religion, in which our happiness here and our eternal welfare hereafter is most intimately concerned, which it his glory to profess and his duty to preach to others. His field of action is honorable and extensive — he has little commerce with the world except to instruct and to edify it — to elevate the souls of men, in a manner, to the very bosom of Deity — a holy Sanctuary, of which he seems to hold the key, and into which he may introduce those, who will have the wisdom to listen to and obey his counsels — His duties require that his mind be in constant exertion in teaching to men, the ways of wisdom, whose ways are ways of pleasantness and all her paths peace. His peculiar privilege of delivering instruction on holy days affords him an opportunity of bringing all his learning and accquirements into useful operation — not merely to entertain, to delight and to steal away the hearts of his hearers but to instruct and to enlighten them in their most important interests — to to interpret and to ~~explain~~ enforce the truths of the sacred oracles, "which contain the substance of our firmest faith and our most precious hopes" to inculcate upon others the duty of admiring and reverencing the goodness and power of the Supreme being — of expressing their love and gratitude towards him — of celebrating his praises — of acknowledging his benefits — of promoting his honor and service. —— I find this subject copious and interesting and could write many pages, but fear I have already fatigued you and will desist. — But there is another view of the subject which — on the same ground of usefulness, which would influence me

in ~~question~~ advising you to give the preference to Federal Street. ~~I suppose~~
In your present ~~state~~ ill confirmed state of health, I should hesitate a long
time, I confess, before I could persuade myself to advise you ~~to~~ to undertake
the sole pastorship of so large a church as Brattle street. — The duties of a clergy
man in Boston, in any parish I believe, are greater than the duties of a clergy
man in the country — they will be frequently of that class, which the benevo-
lent Howard voluntarily imposed upon himself "to dive into the depths of
dungeons — to plunge into the infection of hospitals, to survey the mansions of
sorrow and of pain — to remember the forgotten — to attend to the neg-
lected — to visit the forsaken" — The attending of funerals — the visiting
the sick — the consoling of the afflicted are duties of a clergyman of which you would have a greater
share in Brattle street, than in any other church in town and in the exercise
tion of which you have I ~~know~~ well know too good and benevolent heart
to be cold or languid or sluggish. ~~You would~~ enter into all their feelings
~~you~~ It is not human nature to see the distresses of others, without emotions of
piety, without ardent wishes and strenuous exertions to give relief, but you my
dear Channing, have a heart peculiarly sensible — "you alway have a tear for pity
and a hand, open as day, to melting charity." You would enter into all their
feelings — you would sympathize in all their sorrows — the endearing relation
which would subsist between you of pastor and flock would induce you
to make their sufferings in a manner your own. The Scenes of sorrow and
distress, to which you would be a witness, were you minister of ~~such~~ a church
so numerous as Brattle street and to which you in all weathers and invalide-
grees of your own health, you would be constantly liable, would excite
~~in~~ in my mind much anxiety ~~for~~ lest you should impair your constitution
and would make me very cautious how I should advise you to give

the preference of Brattle street to federal street church, where, for some time at least, the duties will not be half as burdensome — In a pecuniary view, you can make no objection to federal street — their offer is a very honorable one - the salary is greater than any clergyman in town, excepting at Dr Thatchers. — Mr Emerson is the next greatest & his is fourteen dollars a Sabbath - two hundred & fifty dollars annual grant his house & wood. I believe that both parishes ~~have~~ are equally desirous that you should be settled over them both equally zealous that you should accept of their offer — both equally sincere in their professions of attachment and in their preference to you as their clergyman

I think, Channing, you ought to come here immediately — You have had a long time to consider of the subject and an opportunity to converse with your friends. With the assistance of the advice ~~of your friends there~~ and with the result of your own reflections, I think you will decide upon better grounds here, than you could possibly do at New port, and the sooner you give your answer, the more agreeable will it be to the two churches, as they are both very anxious to hear your determination.

Several gentlemen of Brattle street, Mr Loodman, Otis Lyman Gorham &c are extremly anxious, that you should come & preach there a few sundays more, and then they say that they are very confident that the parish would unanimously vote to settle you with another gentleman — that now they could obtain a mayority but that there would be some who would object to it on the ground of not having sufficiently heard you and they wish that the call should be unanimous — they have taken down the old sounding board and a new one constructed by Mr Bulfinch, is to be put up expressly on your account, next week. — How much consideration this circumstance ought to have upon your mind, you can best judge but I repeat that I think you ought to come here immediately — I hope that you will answer this immediately & let me know your determination.

Love me always & believe me to be with much affection yours most sincerely Wm Shaw

William E Channing

Newport. Jany 25. 1803.

Dear Sir.

I have received both the letters, you were so kind as to address to me, on the subject of preaching in Brattle-Street. My long silence has proceeded from an unwillingness to trouble you till I could write something decisive. By the last mail I forwarded to Mr Bodman my determination, which I presume he will lay before the Committee. I regret, Sir, that I am under the necessity of disappointing the wishes of any, especially of those who have expressed for me so much partiality. But I think you will acquiesce in the justice of my reasons for declining the invitation of your highly respected Society. If I know my own heart my motives have been pure, & I have acted with the approbation of most of my friends.

When I conversed with you at Boston on this subject, Dr Thacher was alive & hopes were entertained of his recovery. The idea of having the benefit of his experience & assistance was a strong argument in favor of settlement in Brattle-Street, & perhaps led me to speak in a stile which encouraged an expectation of a def-

12

ferent decision. But his death has removed this ground of preference —— You indeed mention, that it is your "private opinion, formed upon fair presumptions, that the Congregation in Bradle-Street will be pleased with the proposition of a permanent colleague, if agreeable to the person who settles first." But as my health & the number of your society would render a colleague ~~indispensably~~ absolutely necessary, I could not with propriety think of a settlement without assurance that such assistance would be provided —— You may here enquire, why I did not endeavor to learn more fully the sentiments of the society on this subject, before I decided? I answer that in my deliberations, I took the liberty of supposing, that they would accede to the proposition of a colleague; & on that supposition, I still perceived weighty objections to accepting their invitation. You know, Sir, that if I should first settle, it could not be expected that a man advanced in years would become agree to become my colleague, especially a man of such talents as your society have a right to expect; & it is needless to detail to one, acquainted with human nature, the obvious & incalculable evils attending a colleague of

nearly the same age with myself. — I wish you further to observe that had Dr T lived, & had his society settled me with him, I should have been considered as introduced for his relief. But were I now to settle first & were a colleague to be chosen in aid of my youth & weakness, he would be viewed as introduced on my account & his support be considered as a price to obtain my preaching. Thus an importance would be given to my feeble labors, vastly greater than they deserve, & I should have reason to anticipate that repentance & discontent which would naturally follow such an extravagant estimation of my powers. — In my determination on this subject, I have not been influenced by an idea of the poor regard of any society. I have felt myself free to choose whatever situation should offer the fairest prospect of permanent usefulness. — The interest you have taken on this subject, has led me to this frank explanation. Should you impeach the soundness of my judgment, I hope you will give credit to the purity of my motives, & the sincerity of my heart. I did not think it proper to submit these observations to the committee, in my letter to Mr Bodman, as nothing was ever addressed to me in their name on the subject of a colleague. What I have written I wish you to consider as a proof that I have not acted without attention to the communications which your personal feelings induced you to make. With much gratitude for your kindness & with great respect I am Sir Yr Obed Servt Wm E Channing —

Mr. Channing

1813

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Honble H. G. Otis Esqr

Boston

Massachusetts

NEWPORT R.I
2 JA

C

Newport September 2d 1803

My dear Son, I have received your letter by Mr Stevens & have concluded to move to Boston in the fall, provided your Parish shall have purchased a Ministerial house in that season. — I shall have an opportunity, I believe, to let the house I now live in to James Robinson, to take possession sometime in October, when he must quit the house he now occupies; but I cannot engage it to him or any one else untill I am sure of a house in Boston. — Besides this is the time for laying in our Winters Wood, and Mr Robinson cannot put his in our Wood-house at an uncertainty; nor would it be proper for me to lay in my stock while there is a prospect of my going to Boston. — I would not have you push your Parish to purchase a house on my account, if it should be inconvenient to them; — but if I should go to Boston this fall it would be necessary that a house should be provided in season. — you will let me know whether there is a prospect of their procuring a house and when. as soon as one is obtained I shall send over to Boston, by Water such articles as can be spared, and the remainder before my departure. —

In all our conduct we should regard the end of it, we cannot indeed look far into futurity and our short views are uncertain. we cannot tell what will take place on the morrow; but we naturally look before we leap, and wise men are influenced by probabilities. — to that Divine Providence which hath hitherto protected me and my children I commit myself and them, not doubting of his care. — I think besides the comfort of our all being again united in one family, it will be very advantageous to your younger Brothers to reside in Boston. — Henry when he shall return, would there find home; Walter would be with us while he is studying physic, and George if he cannot be received into a store without my boarding him can be boarded by me. — and when Edward shall enter College he will be under our [redacted] eyes, and we can wash and mend his cloathes. — Francis I presume will live in Boston and board with me. — and it may be more for your interest and comfort to be With me than to board out. — these considerations have induced me to leave Newport this fall if a house can be provided in season — your Grand-Papa say, that is more likely that the girls will get good Husbands in Boston than at Newport and that this should be an inducement to me to reside there. I shall not object to my Sons or Daughters marrying when the former

can get good wives & the latter good Husbands but matrimony is at present out of the question.. we all rej rejoice to hear that you gain health and strength — your Grandpapa has had a sore throat of which he has recovered tho he has not yet walked out.— Mrs Channing yesterday had news of the death of her Father.. we are well give my love to Francis.— all the family join me in love to him & to you I am yours affectionately Lucy

& your affectionate mother L C

Newport Sept. 2 1810

Revd William E Channing.

Boston

Massachusetts

Chan. Channing 1803

Early ministry Boston. Jan 4 31. 1804
Copy 2d pap. despondency. Self-distrust

My dear Uncle.

I have been much pleased with your friend Mr Burk. He seems an honest, pious man. I am sorry that I have not been able to accept him more [an] obliging subscriptions. Mutt Newton does not suit our climate. Some of us are too rational, some too enthusiastic to relish his sound sober doctrines. I have read but little of his works; but from the character which has been given of them by respectable men, I hope Mr Greene will be encouraged to publish them —— You desired me to send you Williams Gospel-history; but it cannot be obtained. I have borrowed for you Osborne's duties of women, & I will thank you to return it when you have opportunity. The work on the duties of men con-

sets of two octavos & is too heavy
for Mr Burk to carry. ⁂ I have
no right to complain of the trials
of my ministry. They are small compa-
red with what thousands of my breth-
ren are called to endure. I can
complain of nothing but myself. Ev-
ery day teaches me more of my weak-
ness & corruption, & yet I seem to
grow no better. I hope my hearers
are more profited by my discourses
than I am, or I shall do little good.
I can only hope that God designs to hum-
ble me, to make me feel my insuf-
ficiency, that he may lead me to
ascribe the success of my labors to his
blessing, whenever he may please to make
them powerful to the salvation of souls.
You give a melancholy account of
your society. Have we not all of us
reason to fear that the form of God-

hope has outlived the reality. If the tree must be judged by its fruits, how little do we ~~deserve~~ deserve of love to God & faith in Christ. The boasted virtue of men originates in principles which may operate in the most corrupted hearts. But let us be strong in the Lord. Mr Burtis history is a glorious testimony of the power & grace of God. That power & that grace are unchanging. What ground then have we for hope & constant supplication — I am glad Edward has been so long with you. I hope his heart will early be impressed with divine truth. I shall be happy one day to have him a partaker with me of the affections & joys of the Gospel; but God knows what is best.

Ellery love to all your children, & my respects to all my friends.

Yr affectionately & respectfully

Wm E Channing

W. E. Channing
Jany 31st 1824.
To be preserved

+ Copy & Extract

36

Revd Henry Channing

New London
Connecticut

Mr Burke

1804 C

Boston July.

Dear Sir.

I am happy to hear that your health & spirits continue so good. I feel grateful to heaven, that after the heat & burden of the day you are permitted to enjoy so much repose in the evening of life. I have heard many old men complain that they had survived their usefulness, but it is the kind will of providence that you should be spared to see one another generation springing up around you, & successively deriving improvement from your experience & wisdom. You have hardly a grandchild who cannot trace back some of his sentiments & principles to

your instructive condescending conversation. We wish that the next generation might succeed to our privileges. But time while it brings them forward will hurry you away. Death has no reverence for grey hairs; Age wends up our journey, & lays down to sleep in the grave. I see from your letter to my mother that these reflections have taken the place which they deserve in your mind. As we approach the tomb, what object should so habitually employ the soul, as the great change which awaits us. It is the privilege of the Xan that he can look forward to the dissolution of his earthly frame,

with composure & hope. Thus is the glory of the Gospel that it extends support when all other foundations sink under us. I trust Ann tells me you are studying Divinity more attentively than ever. I think that this is the most important study in all periods of life, but it must be peculiarly interesting to one who ~~feels~~ sees the world fading & realizes ~~that~~ his need of promises which reach beyond the grave. I wish you would write me on the subject. We hope soon to see you this way, & then our communications may be more unrestrained. Religious truth is the pearl above price, & I think I have a heart to embrace it. But alas, how prone are we to deceive ourselves.— Uncle William carries all the news. I will only add that we all unite in desire to welcome you to our new abode. With great respect & affection

Yr. ob.

W. E. Channing

Rev.d W. E. Channing
July 1804

+ 237

Remark relative
to Grandfather

Hon.ble William Ellery Esq.r
Newport

Newport Augt. 14th 1804

Revd & Dear Sir

I sincerely thank you for your kind letter by my Son, and my thanks are addr to Divine Providence for the health & spirits I have enjoyed with but a few interruptions through a long course of years.

These have supported me amidst some severe afflictions, and I hope will continue to support me, and that I shall never despond although the situation of and conduct of some of my nearest relatives have been and are such as to wound my feelings deeply at times, and I see no prospect of their becoming better. —

My great consolation is that in general I have performed my duty to my children, but when I think of the situation of one of them and the conduct of another these clouds darken the evening of my life, and forbid uninterrupted repose. —

I am not of a complaining temper, and I believe I shall not lament that I have survived my usefulness. Indeed when I look back on life, and consider what little I have done for the benefit of others, as well as for my own, I deem to have been an unprofitable servant. —

If in the early part of the education of any of my grand children they should have derived any advantage from my conversation and instruction, I should esteem myself amply rewarded by their gratitude, and the thought of having rendered them some service. — The improvements that some of them have made of their time and talents and are making have and will render

them respectable and useful, and have reflected, and will reflect honour on their grandfathers. —

I think with you that divinity is the most important study, and I wish I had begun it more early in life. I should then have been a much better Theologian than I dare now pretend to be, and probably a much better man. I study little. — I read per fatum, excepting one book, and that I read steadily, and endeavour to understand it; but there are in it some things which are hard to be understood even by the pious; — as you have probably experienced. To write upon the subject of divinity would take up much time, and could not even be sketched in the compass of a letter. If you had proposed any question on that subject, I would have attempted an answer to it. — I am informed that you study too hard. Remember, that your usefulness depends very much on your health, and that your feeble habit cannot endure long continued attention. — I would, especially at this debilitating season, take a large share of moderate exercise, ride frequently into the country & imbibe oxygenic air, go to bed early, not exceeding 10 o' clock and rise by 6. — not preach more than twice in a week, and never in the evening, — and exchange with your country brethren as often as may agreeable to them, and your parishioners. —

Religious exercises are carrying on here in season and out of season. — There are weekly lectures, and conferences, and unwearied efforts to gain some to the side of Christianity, and several have entered the pale of the Church. — Mr. Penny has returned, and I am told will settle here. He is a zealous Minister. — I have heard

him preach once. — He appears to be enthusiastic, and not quite so modest as becomes a young man, and especially a young Minister. I believe enthusiasts are apt to be bold, and perhaps conceited. — and this, considering the depravity of mankind, doth not appear to be unnatural. For altho' the Christian should be humble, and not think too highly of himself; yet the man who conceives he is admitted to a more frequent & familiar communication with God than other men, may be apt to think that he is not like that Publican. — How far this observation is just judge you. I hope I have mistaken the character of Mr Storey. — The parishioners of the late Dr Hopkins, particularly the female part of them, are it seems charmed by or with him. — I wish that the harmony which [illegible] to be taking place since Mr Hopkins's decease may continue between the two Parishes; but I have my doubts & fears. —

I am glad to hear that you are so happily domesticated. I shall visit you in the fall if my health should be continued. — In the mean time write to me, when you cannot find better employment. — With love to your Ma, and all the family I continue to be affectionately yrs Wm Ellery

Aunt Walton got better sooner —
Nanny Tasells walks about, and was last Thursday at my house. —
George is well, but complains of being neglected by his brethren & sisters. When you see your Aunt Nancy tell her we are all well, — and that we may white wash soon. —

Wm. Ellery -
August - 1804 -

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Rec'd
NEWPORT
AUG 4

Wm. Ellery Channing

Boston

Hon'ble
Mr. Randolph

C

Addressed to " Revd. William E. Channing Boston
Hond. by Mr. Randolph"
Newport Augt. 1st. 1804.
Revd. & Dear Sir;

I sincerely thank you for your kind letter by my son, and my thanks are due to Divine Providence for the health and spirits I have enjoyed with but a few interuptions through a long course of years.

These supported me against some severe afflictions and I hope will continue to support me , and that I shall never dispond although the situation and conduct of some of my nearest relatives have been and are such as to wound my feelings deeply at times, and I see no prospect of their becoming better.

My great conselation is that in general I have performed my duty to my children; but when I think of the situation of one of them and the conduct of another clouds darken the evening of my life, and forbid uninterupted repose.

I am not of a complaining temper, and I believe that I shall not lament that I have survived my usefullness. Indeed when I look back on life, and consider what little I have done for the benefit of others, as well as for my own, I seem to have been an unprofitable servant.-

If in the early part of the education of my grandchildren they should have derived any advantage from my conversation and instruction, I should esteem myself amply rewarded by their gratitude, and the thought of having rendered them some service.- The improvements that some of them have made of their time and talents and are making have and will render them respectable and useful, and have reflected, and willl reflect honour on their grandfather.-

I think with you that divinity is the most important ~~stud~~ study, and I wish I had begun it more early in life . I should then have ~~a/much/better~~been a much better Theologian than I dare now pretend to be , and probably a much better man. I study little.-I read pene saltum, excepting one book, and that I read steadily, and endeavour to understand it ; but there are in it some things which are hard to understand even by the pious;- as you have probably experienced. To write upon the subject of divinity would take up much time, and could not even even be sketched in the compass of a letter. If you had proposed any question subject I would have attempted to answer it I am imformed that you study too hard. Remember that your usefulness depends very much on your health, and that your feeble habit cannot endure long, continued attention.- you should , especially at this debilitating season, take a large share of moderate exercise, ride frequently into the country& inbibe oxygenic air, go to bed early,not exceeding 10 o'clock and rise by 6.- not preach more that twice in a week, and never in the evening,- and exchange with your country bretheren, as often as may be agreable to them, and your parishioners.-

Religious exercises are carrying on here in season and out of season.- There are weekly lectures, and conferences, and unwearied efforts to gain some to the side of Christianity, and several have entered the pale of the Church.- Mr. Tenny has returned, and I am told will settle here. He is a zealous Minister.- I have heard him preach once. He appears to be enthusiastic, and not quite so modest as becomes a young man, and especially a young Minister. I believe enthusiasts are apt to be bold, and perhaps conceited.- and this, considering the depravity of mankind, doth not appear to be unnatural. Foe althe' the Christian should be humble, and not think too highly of himself, yet the man who conceives he is admitted to a more frequent & familar communication with God than other men, may be apt to thank that he is not like <u>that</u> Publican.- How long this observatoin is just judge you. I hope I have mistaken the character of Mr. Tenny.- The parishioners of the late Dr. Hopkins, particularly the female part of them, are it seems, charmed by, or with him.- I wish that the harmony which seemed to be taking place, since Mr. Hopkins death may continue between the two Parishes; but I have my doubts & fears.-

I am glad to hear that you are so happily domesticated. I shall visit you in the fall if my health should be continued In the meantime write to me, when you cannot find better employment.- With love to your Ma, and all the family I continue to be affectionately Yrs. Wm. Ellery

Aunt Walter gets better slowly,-
Nanny Lapells walks about,and was last Thursday at my house.-
George is well but complaining of being neglected by his brethren & sisters.
When you see your Aunt Nannytell her we are all well,- and that we may white wash soon.-

ble r
Hon William Ellery Esq
Newport
y
Boston. Feb 16 -

Dear Sir

I have enclosed to you two sermons delivered at the ordination of Mr. Lowell. I will thank you to accept one, and to send the other to Mr Patten. You will see from them that our standard of divinity does not entirely correspond with yours. It is clear that we cannot all be right. The great question then offers whether any deviate so far from truth as to be disqualified for the blessings of the Gospel, or whether any of the errors of the day necessary imply a temper opposed to the spirit of the Gospel, ~~or whether~~ It seems to be unversally granted, that the state of the heart & affections is the great point by which an interest in the redemption of Xl is to be decided; & sentiments are no further important than they involve, imply & cherish a state of heart - Now can we say of the common errors which prevail in the Christian world, that they cannot coexist with a penitent, a pious, a benevolent spirit? Unless we can prove a clear ~~repentance resemb~~ repugnance between certain sentiments, & the spirit of the Gospel, such a repugnance as forces us to conclude that he who holds the sentiments cannot possess the spirit, are we authorized to declare the sentiments demnable. An essential docterine seems to be one which is necessary to the existance of Xan love, or is necessarily implied in the temper. I cannot therefore charge a man with damnable heresy, unless I see that his sentiments prove an opposite temper, or at least exclude the exercises of Christian love -- If this be just are we not called to be cautious in judging of the character, while we are free in condemning the opinions of others. May we not love the heart, when we think poorly of the head of our neighbor As you are fond of speculation, I have thrown out these ideas, not so much to express what I think myself, as to get own of this interesting subject. I want to know what in general constitutes a doctrine essential, what is implied in the idea of an essential docterine; I have given above some thoughts upon the point. If it will be agreable to you to pursue the subject, I should be much gratified -- We are all tolerably well. The winter has been an unsteady one, but on the whole it may be called mild -- Our politicians are all alive to the great events which agitate the world. We all want to feel more than we do, that the Lord reigneth-- Spring is fast approaching, & it seems already to have sent a soft breeze to announce its approach. Among the pleasure which the season will bring, we anticipate a visit from you. We hear that the winter still keeps you prisoner, - we shall be happy to hear that your chains of forst, ice & snow are melted - I have not asked the family what I shall say to you for them, but without such enquirey, I feel authorized to send their love & respects. Will you remember me affectionately to yr family and all my friends--

r
Y affectionate & obedient Grandson

W E Channing-

On outside)

Rev.d.
Rev. W E Channing
dated Feby. 16)
recd Feb. 24) 1806

Penciled by W? F.C.(?) "Early Ministry"

1806 Feb

Oct 1950 Mss. KSC

Boston - May 1806 -

Dear & Honord Sir -

I thank you for your lette, & the comment it contains on our divinity. You complain that our standard is not particular enough, but this is the distinguishing feature of our system of liberality - The greater the variety of sentiments with which a system will harmonize, or the fewer its fundamentals, the more worthy it is of liberal mind - I conceive these to be the leading principles of modern ~~prosecutors~~ divinity, "That practice is all in all, & every system which embraces motives enough to a good practice is sufficiently correct. Love is the fulfilling of the law & the Gospel. All truth is designd to excite this temper & to form the habits which flow from it, & this is the only test which we fallible mortals can apply to doctrines - We have reason to think there are good men in every denomination. Every sect therefore embraces sufficient truth for the great end of Xt, the attainment of everlasting life. It does not follow from this that all ~~pass~~ systems are equally eatable, for some may tend more to purify the heart than others. But we cannot be certain that any system is wholly inadequate

to this all important end, & we must therefore condemn no man unless his practice be corrupt." The general sentiment which runs through this system, "that the temper of the heart is the one thing needful in order to acceptance with God", appears to me scriptural. All sects acknowledge that mere speculative assent is of no avail, but it is the cordeal acceptance of the truth which makes the Christian. If, then the same state of heart can exist in those who embrace different systems, I should pronounce them equally acceptable to God. This appears to me the great question, whether the different systems embraced by professing christians imply different tempers, principles of action, ends & affections in those who embrace them, or, in other words, whether any of these systems from their very nature prove the absence of the christian spirit in those by whom they are received supported. We find in the scriptures, denunciations against those who do not believe in Xt; but the reason seems to be, that they who reject Xt, prove & express by this rejection a corruption of heart. "Ye are not of God, therefore ye hear me not." In the same way we must make it to appear that the reception of a system can only flow from a corrupt heart, before we exclude those who hold it from divine favor. It is not so much the reception of one system or the rejection of another, as the tem-

ber of heart implied & expressed in this reception or rejection, which affects a man's acceptance with God. If this be true, it seems that to judge of the importance of doctrines, we must first form clear conceptions of the peculiar, characteristic, distinguishing spirit & temper which the Gospel requires; & doctrines are to be estimated in proportion as they are necessary to this temper, are implied in it, or flow from it. I hope I have not wearied you upon this subject. I have lately occasionally made it the subject of reflection, & from the abundance of the heart as well as of the heart, the mouth speaketh ~~&c~~

When you consider who is the bearer of this letter you will not think me negligent in giving particulars about your friends here.; I am glad my mother is about to take this journey. She wants exercise, & she wants the sight of old scenes to excite her. The cold, harsh, chilling spring seems to have affected her considerably. I hope you will both be better for seeing one another. I presume you will prescribe each for the other, & I have considerable confidence in the medical skill of both — Will you remember me affectionately to the members of your family & believe me yr respectful & affectionate Grandson

W E Channing —

P.S. I have written a long letter to Mr Patten on one of the subjects which you noticed in your last, & have desired him to hand it to you —

Honble William Ellery Esqr

Newport

R I.

Newport June 10th 1806

Dear Sir,

Early Ministry

I find by your letter of May that I had not altogether mistaken your standard of Divinity. It appeared to me to deal too much in generals, and not to exhibit what I hold to be fundamental doctrines of Christianity; but on the contrary to imbody a variety of sentiments without bringing them to the test of Scripture to try their values. To be sure this mode of standard making, mightily favours Liberality of sentiment, not to say free-thinking.

There is but one correct system of Divinity, and that is contained in the Scriptures. What is not therein expressly declared; or fairly to be inferred therefrom is human, and by consequence imperfect, and incorrect. It is by no means admissible that because there may be pious men in every denomination, the system generally embraced by that denomination is sufficiently correct; nor is the temper, the apparent temper of the heart, the only test which we fallible mortals can apply to Doctrines. We cannot indeed know the characters of men, but by their conduct; but may we not be deceived here? We may deceive ourselves, and others, and may be deceived, but We are commanded to search the Scriptures, which cannot deceive us.

The Christian System was doubtless intended to produce the love of God, and of Man; but to love God and Man as we ought is it not necessary that we should entertain just ideas of the moral attributes of God, of the depravity of man, of the atonement of Christ, and the influences of the Holy Spirit? Possessed of a due sense of our depravity by the aid of the Holy Spirit we shall be led to seek for refuge from the justice of God. This we can no where find but in the atonement made for sin, not by a creature but by the Son of God, and this to an illuminated mind will exhibit an infinitude of benevolence, which will excite ardent love to God, and to Man.

altho the temper of heart which men may exhibit in their conduct is not in my opinion the only test of the truth of doctrines; yet that the temper of the heart, meaning by that expression, that holy principle imparted in regeneration, is the one thing needful in order to acceptance with God will not be denied: for it is scriptural, but can it be inferred that in imparting a principle of Holiness by the Holy Spirit no regard is had to the system of doctrine maintained by the recipient, whether it be corrupt or not. If so all systems

may be of equal or of no value, being altogether irrelative to our acceptance with God. — If one system be more valuable than another, or may tend more to purify the heart, the great question, instead of that you so largely propose, may be simply this, whether the system of doctrines contained in the Scriptures hath not a greater tendency to purify the heart than any other. You will doubtless answer this question in the affirmative. — We shall not then have to inquire whether our hearts or dispositions are conformable to this or that system formed by fallible men; but whether they are conformable to the Christian standard; — and if we should be desirous to discover which one of the various systems formed by men approaches the nearest to truth, we must bring them to the infallible touch-stone the Scriptures. —

The Apostle Paul when on his way to Damascus breathing out threatnings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord was arrested and converted by Jesus. Was his religious belief changed in his conversion? — If it were can it with propriety be said that the sect whose sentiments he had embraced, embraced sufficient truth for the great end of Christ, the attainment of everlasting life? — If it did why should his religious principles changed? — The same questions may be asked concerning Roman Catholics and others who belong to sects whose religious principles are corrupt. — A corrupt tree cannot bring forth good fruit. Its nature must be changed before it can do this. —

Mr. Pallen communicated to me the letter you wrote to him and I have communicated to him your letter to me. — The first he will without doubt answer, and therefore it is unnecessary for me to take any further notice of it, than is contained in the foregoing attempt to answer the second. — As both of your letters and that of Mr. Pallen to me, regard the same subject, my answer to your last necessarily regards them all. — I did not see the letter Mr. P. wrote to you on the receipt of Mr. Porter's sermon; nor did he see mine; — not do I expect to see his answer to your last to him; nor that he will see this letter.

I chuse to write independently of him, and to give you my own sentiments. — I am much obliged to you for your letters, and request a continuance of them. — You must not expect from me more than a moderate knowledge of the Theological subjects; but I may possibly suggest something which may deserve reflection. — You may think me too decided. I hope my mind is open to conviction, and if my sentiments are in any respect erroneous be pleased freely to point out the error. —

Before this reaches you you will have heard of the death

of my Sister. With the circumstances of her death your mother will make you acquainted. — I am now the only surviving child of my father. — I have lost all of some, and some of all the nearest relations in life; — but thank God I am not left alone. Many of my children are living, and most of them are hope and comfort to me. — The visit I have received from Mr. D. & your Ma. & Sarah & Ann D. hath afforded me great delight. — I should be happy in a visit from you: but your Ma says you propose a journey to the eastward. I hope it will be conducive to your health. — My love to Francis and your other brethren, and to your Sisters. I am glad to hear that he is on the recovery, and that he is honoured with the appointment to pronounce the oration on the 4th of July next. I hope that as he has sufficient time to compose it, he will not worry himself too much about it. I know he is ambitious of excellence; but the ground has been so often trod, that unless he can strike out an intirely new path he must be content to follow others, and if it be passible again he will do well. — Tell him that Mr. Silliman is appointed to pronounce the oration here on that day. —

My humours rather decreases, and I hope will permit me to visit my Eastern relations before next winter. —

Give my regards to Mr. Shaw. — I congratulate him on his appointment. —

I am affectionately

yrs Wm. Ellery

Revd. W. E. Channing

Rev.d

Wm. E. Channing

Boston

Massachus

Addressed to " Revd. Wm. E. Channing Boston Massachusetts"

Newport June 10th. 1806

Dear Sir,

I found by your letter of May that I had not altogether mistaken your standard of Divinity. It appeared t to me to deal too much in generals, and not to exhibit what I hold to be fundamental doctrines of Christianity; but on the contrary to indulge a variety of sentiments without bringing them to the test of Scripture to try their values.

To be sure this mode of standard making, mightily favors liberality of sentimentnot to say free-thinking.

There is but one correct system of Divinity, and that is contained in the scriptures.- what is not therein expressly declared; or fairly to be infered therefrom is human, and by consequence inperfect; and incorrect. It is by no means admissable that because there may be pious men in every denomination, the System generally embraced by that denomination is sufficiently correct; nor is the temper, the apparent temper of the heart, the only test which we fallible mortals can apply to Doctrines.- We cannot indeed know the characters of men, but by their conduct; but may we not be deceived here? We may deceive ourselves, and others, and may be deceived. We are commanded to search the Scriptures, which cannot deceive us.-

The Christian System was doubtless intended to produce the love of God, and of Man;- but to love God and Man as we ought is it not necessary that we should entertain just ideas of the moral attributes of God, of the depravity of man,- of the atonment of Christ, and the influences of the Holy Spirit? Possessed of a due sense of our depravity by the aid of the Holy Spirit we shall be led to seek for refuge from the justice of God. This we can no-where find but in the atonement made for sin, not by a creature but by the Son of God, and this to an illuminated mind will exhibit an infinitude of benevolence, which will excite ardent love of God and of Man.-

Altho' the temper of heart which men may exhibit in their conduct is not in my opinion the only test of the truth of doctrines; yet that the temper of the heart, meaning by that expression, that holy principle imparted in regeneration, is the one thing useful in order to acceptance with God will not be denied; for it is scriptual, but can it be thence inferred that in imparting a principle of Holiness by the Holy Spirit no regard is had to the system of doctrine maintained by the recipient, whether it be corrupt or not?--- If so all systems may be of equal or of no value, being altogether irrelative to our acceptance with God.-- If one system be more valuable than another, or may tend more to purify the heart, ~~the great question~~, the great question, instead of that you so largely propose, may be simply this, whether the System of doctrines contained in the Scriptures hath n et a greatr tendancy to purify the heart than any other.

You will doubtless answer this question in the affirmative.- We shall not then have to enquire whether our hearts or dispositions are conformable to this or that syste formed by fallible men; but whether they are conformable to the Christian Standard;- and if we should be desirous to discover which one of the various systems formed by men

approaches nearest to the truth, we must bring them to the infallible touch-stone the Scriptures.--

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My humour rather decreases, and I hope will permit me to visit my Eastern relations before next winter.-

Give my regards to Mr. Shaw. I congratulate him on his appointment.

I am affectionately

Revd.W.E.Channing Yrs Wm. Ellery

Boston May 1807–

Dear Sir–

I have not forgotten your last letter, though I have left it so long unanswered. It has often been my intention to answer it, but I never fixed a particular time for the work, & you will not be surprized that such a general intention has been followed with so little effect. I lately read a work which impressed my mind with the importance of never resting on vague general purposes, but of appointing some precise period for their accomplishment. I wish I could say that this injunction had been reduced to practice — I conclude from your last letter that we both agree in thinking, that the great effect proposed by God in the revelation he has made, is the sanctification of the hearts of mankind, that a certain state of heart is the end for which God exhibits certain objects to our view. You justly observe that this sentiment is no ground for indifference to truth, because the system contained in the Scriptures must have a greater purifying tendency than any other; but while we acknowledge this truth, & acknowledge the solemn obligation which it imposes to search the Scriptures with impartiality & zeal, are we authorized to say that he who in any degree departs from the system of Scripture must be a stranger to their purifying influence. Can we say how much of the Scriptures must be received to constitute a man an subject of the promises of Xt. You ask "if it is not necessary in order to the love

of God & man, that we should entertain just ideas of the moral attributes of God, of the depravity of man, of the atonement of Xt, & the influence of the Holy Spirit." It is certain that to love God, some just ideas of him must be formed. But how little after all do we know, & may not some mistake with respect to some of the moral attributes of God consist with such a spirit as he has promised to bless? With respect to the depravity of man, I think it important that it should be most deeply & painfully felt, for it is hard to conceive of any rectitude of heart in him who is insensible to his transgressions, & it is impossible that he should seek to put away iniquity, who does not feel it a burthen. But while I acknowledge this, I am not ready to say that no man can be a Xn who does not believe the total depravity of human nature. A man may doubt on this subject & yet late us. I think I have known such. With respect to the atonement of Xt, you know that the highest Calvinists are very much devided on this point. In this state & in Vermont, several of the straitest of that denomination reject the idea of vicarious suffering & satisfaction, & suppose that Xts obedience alone has rendered the exercise of devine mercy towd man consistent & glorious. These persons are embraced by their brethren who hold the more ancient doctrine on this point. Shall we say that this error is fatal, & irreconcilable with love of God & of man. With respect to the Holy Spirit, few or none deny its influence, but many differ in ex-

planning its mode of operation. Some conceive that the Spirit operates according to certain general fixed rules, that its efficacy is to be expected & sought in the use of means, & that God has ~~formed the same~~ connected his agency with means, in the spiritual as in the natural world. They ascribe all good respect to God as the only fountain, on the same principle that they ascribe to him all the blessings of the present state. May not such men respect the love of God & their neighbor. You ask "whether the Holy Spirit in imparting holiness has no regard to the system of doctrine maintained by the recipient." I answer, that the divine Spirit operates by truth, but can we say what number of propositions must exist in the mind as a preparation for ~~to the existence of~~ those dispositions which constitute the ~~in~~, or can we say what number of propositions will be assented to after these dispositions have been produced? In one word, can we draw up a number of propositions & say love, that ~~there~~ assent to ~~is~~ as necessarily connected with a ~~in~~ ter, so that the want of such assent is a proof that character does not exist? This is the question which ~~needs~~ resolved. There are doctrines which appear to me portant, & suited to the humiliation & sanctification sinful men. I hear others oppose them. I think these persons suffer ~~by~~ by the rejection of such important truth. But they assent to other truths of the greatest magnitude, & appear to feel & live as I do. Shall I say, ~~to~~ such, "depart from me, I cannot sit with you at the table of the Lord, You are in the bond of iniquity." Taught by experience my own blindness, shall I speak, as if I could not err, & as if they might not in some disputed points be more enlightened than myself.

hope you will examine there remarks & expose their weakness if they are weak, with the greatest freedom — Henry has mentioned to you in one of his letters my intention of travelling. I am more & more uncertain about the direction I shall take. I shall ~~return at a~~ I hope I shall be at home when you are on this quarter. Your ~~friends~~ friend here all wish to see you. Our health is pretty good, — All desire respect & love — respect & affection to Grandson.

Wm Ellery

Hon.ble William Ellery Esq.r
Newport
R.I.

Rev.d M.r Channing
May 1.st
1807

Mrs Ellery
Miss Sarah Ellery

Newport June 1st 1807 C

6th page

My dear Sir,

I acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter of May, It certainly would be proper to assign some precise time for the performance of every thing we intend to do, and not suffer the time assigned for the execution of any particular business to be employed about any other, unless it should be of greater importance, and in such case the business pretermitted ought as soon as the other is performed be assumed & accomplished. That which we think may be done at any time may be forgotten or probably will not be seasonably accomplished. We are indeed too apt to rest in vague, general purposes about matters of much greater moment than that of seasonably answering the letter of a friend—

If we consider Scripture as a revelation from God, containing a system of faith, as well as morals, or rules of practice, we certainly ought to search them with a sincere desire to understand and embrace them, and to practice accordingly.

A departure in any degree from that system, as it respects faith, may be attended with consequence as pernicious to the Unbeliever, as a breach of the least commandment may be to the violater thereof.—The Christian System is the production of infinite wisdom, a complete, perfect System all the parts of which are exactly adapted to accomplish the purposes of its omniscient Author, and a breach of any one part of it it would seem to have a tendency to defeat the intended effect of the whole, and by consequence a negligent or wilful departure from it in any degree must incurr the displeasure of its Framer,—and so far as that tendency could influence to diminish the general happiness it would be diminished. But in the best possible System, the greatest quantity of happiness must be produced, and of course from the greatest apparent evil, great good will be reduced.—

I asked "Is it not necessary to the love of God and man, that

we should entertain just ideas of his moral attributes, of the depravity of man, — of the atonement of Christ, and the influence of the Holy Spirit. To which you answer, "If it is certain to love God some just ideas of him must be formed. But how little after all do we know, and may not some mistake with respect to some moral attribute of God consist with such a spirit as he has promised to bless?" — By entertaining just ideas of ~~God~~ the attributes of God I could not mean that it was necessary, or possible perfectly to comprehend infinite perfection in order to love God; but I meant something more than that we should form some just ideas of him. I meant at least that we should not entertain any unjust ideas of him, — any ideas inconsistent with or derogatory from his moral character. I wish you to explain what you mean by some just ideas, some mistake with respect to some moral attribute of God. — I conceive that those attributes all harmonize in such a manner that a mistake with regard to one must affect our apprehensions of the entire character, and that we cannot love it as we ought while such error remains. —

With respect to human depravity, we agree in the main, and perhaps we shall entirely agree when you shall have explained what you intend by total depravity. The heart of unconverted man, according to Scripture, is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked, — and out of it proceeds such a catalogue of sins as argue a deep pollution; so deep, that, in order to his purification and future felicity it is necessary that his stony heart should be taken away, and a heart of flesh be substituted in its place.

With respect to the Atonement I know that there are divisions — I pin my faith upon no man's sleeve. The sentiments of Calvin, as far as I am acquainted with them, are in my opinion more consonant with Scripture, than those of Divines who are opposed to them. — If Christ had not done the Will of God, which he came to do, he would not have been obedient to it, — would not have been obedient to the death of the cross, and become a sacrifice for sin; for otherwise he would not have been sinless, and so far from expiating the sins of mankind

could not have atoned for his own. And is it not the blood which cleanseth from all sin? — Is there any remission of sin without blood? Is it not by his stripes that sinners are healed, and by his blood that they are redeemed? I think it needless to refer to more expressions of scripture to show that the sufferings and death of Christ on the cross, and not his obedience alone have satisfied divine justice. Christ crucified is the grand subject of the gospel, and of the epistles of the apostles. —

I am sensible that many differ not only in explaining ~~with regard~~ to the mode of operation of the Divine Spirit, but distinguish between ordinary and special grace. Arminians assert that saving grace is tendered to the acceptance of every man, which he may or may not receive just as he pleaseth, and that the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit is not irresistible, but is suspended for its efficacy on the will of man &c. &c. It would be presumption in me, and probably any one else, to undertake to define the manner in which the Holy Spirit operates in the conviction and conversion of sinners, when Jesus declared to Nicodemus: Marvel not that I said unto thee ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof; but canst not tell whence it cometh and whither it goeth; so is every one that is born of the Spirit. Jesus had before expressly and solemnly declared Verily, Verily I say unto thee except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God, — and again Verily Verily I say unto thee, except a man be born of Water and of the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. These weighty, and important, and reiterated declarations satisfy my mind not only that man must be born again to see the kingdom of God but that the operation of the Holy Spirit in regeneration is incomprehensible, and irresistible, and therefore is not to be accounted for on any principles of analogy between the material and moral world. In regeneration means do not appear to have that influence which some are inclined to attribute to them. It seems more consonant to Scripture to attribute it to the immediate sovereign agency of the Holy Spirit. — You observe that the Divine Spirit operates by truth, what your precise meaning

is next explanation— God is truth— The spirit is truth— The Gospel is truth. It is what God hath spoken by his celestial Messengers, and what he hath spoken demands our assent.— But were the propositions an assent to which is necessary to salvation drawn up and laid down as formally as any platform of divinity, would an assent to them produce that disposition of heart which constitutes the true Christian character— I know not. It appears to me that there must be a new heart,— that the sinner must be created anew in Christ Jesus— that the old man must be put off and the new man put on,— that he must be born again; in a word that the sinner must undergo an intire change before he can be a saint, and this cannot be effected, but by the Holy Spirit— We are too apt to consider means as in themselves operative, and to rely upon the performance of them for salvation, when the truth probably is that they are as inoperative as tools are in the hand of the artificer,— and that every thing that has taken place, takes or will take place in the material and moral world ought to be resolved into the immediate agency of Jehovah, and of course that he is all in all.— He has been pleased to exhibit his character to man in both worlds in a manner adapted to his constitution. The objects presented to our senses, cannot but be perceived, and, if rightly understood, will manifest the Eternal Power and Godhead of their author, and so would in a clearer light the objects presented to us in the Gospel of truth;— but alas! by sin we have lost the image of God— are blinde to spiritual things, and until regenerated are blots in the moral world.— The illuminated receive from the Sun of righteousness inextinguishable and increasing light, light which shines more and more to the perfect day. Although they do not yet see clearly the truths contained in important doctrines; yet they will hereafter, as they advance in knowledge, have a more extensive and clearer view of them, and more and more admire and love the Gode of truth and love. They who absolutely reject any of the doctrines of Christianity are destitute at least of modesty and humility;— but they are in the hands of a merciful Being who can change their hearts, and turn them as rivers of water are turned.— We are commanded to exercise

benevolence to all men; yea, to love even our enemies; but tho is there not a peculiar love, or a greater degree of love, due from saints to those of the household of faith than to infidels; — and can a church member set down with equal delight and satisfaction at the table of the Lord with those, whose sentiments relative to important doctrines differ essentially from his, as with those who therein accord with him? — I presume that the members of churches in your State and that of Vermont, prior to admission, give their assent to certain covenants. If they do, and any of them afterwards reject any article or articles thereof, are they nevertheless permitted to partake of the sacrament with those who adhere to their covenant engagements? —

Means, as they regard the material system, do not appear to me to be more justly considered by some people than are means relative to the moral System. They are apt to view them as causes. It seems to me that they are effects, that there are properly speaking, no proximate, remote, or secondary causes, — that there is but one great cause of all things, and as I have already said that every effect which takes place in the universe is the effect of Gods immediate agency. We are accustomed to hear and speak of the laws of gravity, attraction, Abasion, affinity &c, and those we call Laws of Nature, and some Philosophers have considered Nature as a power distinct from Deity. Buffon if I recollect rightly made a formal address to that imaginary existence, but before he got through his rapturous effusion he introduced a first cause of all things. When things proceed in their usual course they are said to go on in the course of Nature, and when they deviate the deviation is termed Supernatural by which expressions many are led to suppose that Nature can do of herself do things within a certain, undefined compass, and that what is extraordinary and above her power requires a superior Agents. For my part I conceive that all things ever [illegible] the everlasting infinitely well ordered [illegible] Am. — Christ rose from the dead by the

M

determinate counsel of him by whose determinate counsel he was crucified;—that his operations are not governed pro re nata according to occurrences:—that God is omnipresent not merely as a Spectator, but as an agent, and that without his agency in vain would the sun shine, the rain descend, and the dew fall there would be no vegetation—and in like manner you may plant, and &c. Watch and water—it will be vain, unless God gives the increase.—Whatever comes to pass was predestinated, and is effected by Him.—Some Means are by some Ministers stiled efficacious means. I dislike all modes of expression that in any degree tend to exclude the eternal activity of Jehovah, or to introduce into the mind subordinate notions of a power distinct and independent of the Creator of and Governor of the Universe.—

From this letter you may collect my opinion of the depravity of human nature, of the Atonement of Christ, and of the Operation of the Holy Spirit. With regard to the first you have not fully given your opinion, as to the second you send me the opinion of others, and so of the third and last.—I think I have examined your remarks, and answered them with the freedom of a friend. Permit me to say that I wish you had been more explicit, and not left me to look for your opinion among those of others,—and that you had mentioned the doctrines you deem important, and the truths of the greatest importance assented to by others, who reject the doctrines which appear to you important. I then should have been able to discover how far we agree, and to know what you and those you allude to consider as important doctrines and of the greatest magnitude.—If there be any errors in what I have advanced I know you will impute them to human fraileness causa naturæ, and I beg you to correct them in your next.—

Wishing you health and every blessing

I am affectionately &c.

a fair opportunity offering to send this by Wm Gibbs I think it better to send it now than to keep it until your return—

Wm Ellery
1807

(6th page)

William Ellery — Grandfather
Rec'd Not to be opened before

William & Channing
Boston
Massachusetts

returns
W E

Dr Sir, Petersburgh August 7th June 6. 1807 letter

I acknowledge with gratitude the receipt of your letter of the 16th. ult. with the two sermons inclosed; one of which I have desired your brother George to deliver to Mr. Patten. The sermon doth not appear to be explicit enough to detain inform its reader what your standard of Divinity is. It deals too much in generals for a standard, and leaves too much to conjecture. He tells us the two positions which form the basis of his sermon are true. Divine truth is indeed the instrument or means of producing the moral change, figuratively called regeneration; but its aptitude, and or tendency essentially to change the disposition and character of the sinner be ever so great; its light can no more change them, than the light of the sun can give sight and sense to a rotten statue without the energetic influence of the Spirit of God, and this sentiment is easily reconciled with the declarations of Scripture that we are begotten "with the word of truth", and that men are born again or regenerated "by the word of truth" God which liveth and abideth forever". The sinner are as dead in trespasses and sins, and as blind to truth as the Scriptures represent them to be. How is it possible that they can become alive to Christ, or discern the light of truth, without being quickened and reanimated by that power only which can raise the dead, and give sight to the blind. Christ the great luminary of the world will shine in vain, while the darkness comprehendeth it not. Of this be true of what avail can be the aptitude of divine truth to change the disposition and character of a sinner merely considered in itself. Of none at all; till the will remain under Christ applies his eyesalve to his blind eyes, and his regenerating influence as dead, and as blind as a stone, or marble statue. God makes use of such means to accomplish his purposes, as he thinks proper; and he always makes use of the best but it should be considered that God forms the means, and is all in all in regeneration.

Under his first proposition, in enumerating what the Scriptures contain he mentions generally the doctrines of natural religion, that they declare the being, perfections and providence of God, next that they testify of Jesus Christ of his divine mission, his exalted character what he taught, performed and suffered for the benefit of mankind, that in them we have eternal life, then that they clearly teach the doctrines of the resurrection of the dead, a future state, and eternal judgment, and concludes with very general expressions. Not a word doth

any of Orig. Sin, and the depravity of human nature, of predestination and election, of the divinity of the Son of God, and of the divinity of the holy ghost. These I suppose he considers he doth not regard to be the words of Professor Ware, as plain unequivocal doctrines of the bible. I do not apprehend any doctrines as equivocal when rightly understood. The equivocality if I may coin the word is not in the doctrines themselves, but in our weak conceptions, and understandings, and by no means in the doctrines themselves. admitting that Ignorance and error as he well observes tend to debase corrupt and destroy mankind - and that Divine truth is the salt of the earth, but if mankind by their depravity have lost the savour of it, wherewith, how shall they to be salted? I know no way by which they can be salted but by Divine grace, by the Influences of the Spirit. The Ministers of the Gospel are to teach publish the truths of God; - but not a syllable are they to say respecting truths which cannot be fully comprehended. These are not objects of faith it seems — Mr. Locke did not think so, and if we are to be unconcerned about such doctrines as are not plain & obvious there will not be much in the scriptures to search and investigate. St. Peter says that there are some things in his brother Pauls Epistles which are hard to be understood which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest as they do also the other scriptures unto their own destruction. Ye therefore beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also being led away with the error of the wicked fall from your own stedfastness. Mr. Porter in his second sermon says which I am glad to see, that Ministers of the Gospel are to exhibit to their hearers the truths of revelation, that it is evident that Ministers, duty of exhibiting the truth to others implies that We Ministers should first understand it ourselves. To search the Scriptures is our indispensible duty &c. &c. — I have quoted an expression from the charge, and have not time to say any thing more about the charge which is written in plain, unequivocal language. — especially as I have some observations to make on Mr. B's performance, and have must take notice of some parts of your letter which I have not fully replied to in my remarks on the sermon. — Without criticising on Mr. B's warping asunder and rushing asunder, his prompous simile drawn from the planetary system, of the planets eclipsings, aberrations, gravitations, &c. &c. which only serve to confusion obscure and perplex and bring to my mind what one times said of some Stoic who was there in company, that he should like him very well, if he were not forever mocking the stars about, but to be serious. Doth Mr. B. conceive that great errors in the Churches of Christ are venial, that God will pardon the worshipping of idols, and others as enormous aberrations. God is indeed merciful but he is a just, and jealous God. It seems to me that Mr. B's imagination hurried him beyond the bounds of even of what you call your Standard - Atoms & Systems into ruin hurled And now a bubble burst and now a world —

I come now, my dear Sir, more particularly to answer your letter, which contains some things more easy to be understood than to be answered. I but now mentioned one deviation from Scripture and alluded to others which I humbly conceive are so opposite to the express commands of God that they probably will disqualify those who persist in them from the blessings of the Gospel. — In Jude's day there were false teachers "raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering stars (not like the regularly moving planets of our System) to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever", some such it seems by Ecclesiastical history existed in a few centuries after that day, and it is to be feared that there may be a few of that or a similar description to the present day in the U. S. of America, and perhaps in Boston. — Is there not in Boston a Roman Catholic Chappel, and a Society of Universalians, and are there not in that Town Ministers who undertake to pardon, and absolve sinners. — There have been without doubt damnable heresies in the World, I dont nor dare I say that there exist in the present day, or that the heretics in your town just referred to are unpardonable much less that individuals belonging to those societies are in an unpardonable state, but this I trust I may say that those who persist without committing a breach on Christian Charity, that they who persist in such sentiments persist in sentiments not warranted, if not clearly opposed to the Spirit of the Gospel. Their future destination is in the hands of a merciful God — Judge not least ye be judged

I conceive that our sentiments have an influence greater or less on our affections, and conduct and it will thence follow that error in sentiment ought to be very cautiously avoided, and perhaps what We are to answer for idle words, — why not for idle and sentiments — yielding to Gospel errors, opens a door to the admission of great ones. — Ignorance unavoidable ignorance will of the truth of there be such will God will I believe winke at; but are we not required to search the Scriptures, and to pray for the aid of the Holy Spirit to illuminate our minds and to lead us to the truth? — Without holiness no man can see the Lord, and holiness is the result of a belief in Christ. — And this belief cannot be obtained by any exertions of our own, but only by the influence of the Holy Spirit. Then imparted, not acquired by us, any little mistakes, guess work arrangement which result merely from inattention, our too little cautious, depraved nature it is humbly hoped God will forgive; otherwise we must be unhappy forever. — I love a good heart, and I know that it is God who hath made the difference in the capacities of men, and that he alone only can take away our hearts of stone, and give us hearts of flesh. — and that he ought to exert the power reason God hath given

us in endeavours to know his character, will, and to know Jesus Christ whom to know is life eternal. — The relation we bear to Either God and Christ we should study, in order that divine grace we may how to fulfill our the duties resulting from that relation. For example sake we entertain false notions of Deity, we shall in our sentiments be related to a false not the true God, and worship him accordingly, and so of the Son of God, who according to my understanding of the Scriptures is not an exalted creature; but a Proper and equal with God, and as such ought to be worshipped. Paramount We and all the Angels of God, are by God required to worship him as such God. — Worship is not due to any creature however exalted be his character, and station. — Under this idea as it relates to that God the Son & God equality, and so of the Holy Ghost, we are in my opinion a proper objects of faith as well as worship: and well it be said that our hearts and affections will not receive any beneficial influence from such views and contemplations. — I would not venture to assert its. The gentlemen of your Standard seem to be inquisitive about essential points in order that their religious course may not be disturbed by a multiplicity of views. They seem to wish to simplify the Gospel, and to throw out of it every thing that is not plain and universal. In short to make a religion our System of his own. — Dr. Price under took from his accommodating temper to frame a plan of Divinity which should suit, alike Calvinists, Arminians, Socinians, Arians and I do not remember how many other sects; but after all it was Price's, and not Christ's. — Accommodating Systems may do for Politicians; but not, I should think, for Christians. The Christian System is notwithstanding it may appear complex, apart and confound the wise & the learned, yet it must be perfect and harmonious, and will not submit to be warped asunder, to please the fancies and inventions of men. — The influences of education, of great names, of the different tempers, capacities &c upon our opinions, will always keep us in some degree apart. Probably when the Millenium arrives, they who at that time then live may be of one mind. — They who will arrive happy at Heaven will doubtless be unanimous. — In the meantime may we live in peace, and may the God of peace dwell among us. — May we trust in Christ alone for salvation. Then shall we avoid the curse denounced against those who trust in man.

Amidst the dreadful conflicts in Europe, where garments are rolled in blood, and amidst our apprehensions for the peace of our Jerusalem may we sincerely rejoice that the Lord reigneth, and then we may confidently do it if we be virtuous and pious. I embrace in the arms of love, your Mother, Brethren & Sisters, and am

affectly.

I believe we shall agree very well together when I get home, for I am determined to be pleased with everything.

Addressed to"Revd. William E. Channing Boston Massachucetts

Newport June 1st.- 1807
My Dear Sir,

I acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter of May. It certainly would be propper to asign some precise time for the preformance of everything we intend to do, and not suffer the time asigned for the execution of any particular business to be employed about any other unless it should be of greater importance; and in such case, the business pretermitted ought as soon as the other is preformed be assumed & accomplished. That which we think may be done at any time may be forgotten or probably will not be seasonably accomplished. We are indeed too apt to rest in vague, general purposes about matters of much greater moment than that of seasonably answering the letter of a friend-

If we consider Scriptures as a revelation from God, containing a system of faith, as well as morals, or rules of practice, we certainly ought to search them, with a sincere desire to understand and embrace them, and to pratice accordingly.

A departure in any degree from that system, as it respects faith, may be attended with consequences as pernicious to the Unbeliever, as a breach of the last commandment may be to the violater thereof.- The Christian System is the production of infinate wisdom, a complete, perfect System all the parts of which are exactly adapted to accomplish the purpose of its omnicient Author, and a breach of any one part of it would seem to have a tendancy to defeat the intended effect of the whole, and by consequence a negligent or willful departure from it in any degree must incur the displeasure of its Framer.- and as far as that tendancy could influence to diminish the general happiness it would be dimminished. But in the best possible system, the greatest quantity of happiness must be produced, and of course from the greatest apparent evil, great good will be produced.-

I asked "is it not necessary to the love of God and Man thatwe should entertain just ideas of his moral attributes, of the depravity of man,- of the atonement of Christ, and the influence of the Holy Spirit. To which you answer "It is certain to love God <u>some</u> just ideas of him must be formed. But how little after all do we know, and may not <u>some</u> mistake with respect to <u>some</u> moral attribute of God consist with such a spirit as he has promised to bless?- By entertaining just ideas of the attributes of God I could not mean that it was necessary, or possible perfectly to comprehend infinate perfection in order to love God; but I meant something more than that we should form <u>some</u> just ideas of him. I meant at least that we should not entertain any unjust ideas of him,- any ideas inconsistant with or deregetory from his moral character Iwish to explain what you mean by some just ideas, some mistake with respect to some moral attributes of God--I conceive that these attributes all harmonize in such a manner that a mistake with regards to one must affect pur apprehension of the entire character, and that we cannot love it as we ought while such error remain.-

With respect to human depravity, we agree in the main, and perhaps we shall entirely agree when you shall have explained what you intend by <u>total</u> depravity. The heart of

unconverted man, according to scripture, is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked, - and out of it proceed such a catalogue of sins as argue a deep pollution; so deep, that, in order to his purification and future felicity it is necessary that his stony heart should be taken away, and a heart of flesh be substituted in its place.

With respect to the Atonement I know that there are divisions-- I pin my faith upon no man's sleeve. The sentiment of Calvin, as far as I am aquainted with them, are in my opinion more consonant with Scripture, than these of Divines who are opposed to them.- If Christ had not done the Will of God, which he came to do, he would not have been obedient to the death of the cross and become a sacrifice for sin; for otherwise he would not have been sinless, and so far from expiating the sins of mankind coul not have atoned for his own And is it not the blood of which cleanseth from all sin Is there any remission of sin without blood? Is it not by his stripes that sinners are healed, and by his blood that they are redeemed? I think it needless to refer to more expressions of scripture to show that the sufferings and death of Christ on the crass and not his obedience alone have satisfied divine justice. Christ crucified is the grand subject of the gospel, and of the epistles of the apostles.--

I am sensible that many differ not only in explaining the mode of operation of the Divine Spirit, but distinguish between ordinary and special grace. Arminians assert that " saving grace is tendered to the acceptance of every man, which he may or may not receive just as he pleaseth, and that the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit is not invincible; but is suspended for its efficacy on the will of man etc.etc. It would be presumtion in me, and probably any one else, to undertake to define the manner in which the Holy Spirit operates in conviction and conversion of sinners, when Jesus declared to Nicodemus. Marvil not that I said unto thee ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof; but can it not tell , whence it cometh and whether it goeth, so is every one that is born of the Spirit. Jesus had before expressly and solemnly declared Verily Verily I say unto thee except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.-Then and again Verily Verily I say unto you thee, except a man be bornof Water and of the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God,- These weighty, and important, and reiterated declarations satisfy my mind not only that man must be born again to see the kingdom of God but that the operation of the Holy Spirit in regeneration is incomprehensible, and irresistible(?), and therefore is not to be accounted for on any principlesof anelogy between the material and moral world.- In regeneration means do not appear to have that influence whichbsome are inclined to attribute to them. It seems more consonant to Scripture to attribute it to them. It seems more immediate soverign agency of the Holy Spirit.- You observe that the Divine Spirit operates by truth , what your precise meaning is needs explaination-- God is truth-- The Spirit is truth- the Gospel is truth. It is what God hath spoken by his celestial Messonger, and what he hath spoken demands our assent.- But were the propositions an assent to which is necessary to salvation drawn up and laid down as formally as anyplatform of divinity would an assent to them produce that disposition of heart which constitutes the true Christian character?I trow not. It

appears to me that there must be a new heart,- that the sinner must be created anew in Christ Jesus,- that the old man must be put off and the new man be put on,- that he must undergo an entire change before he can be a saint, and this cannot be affected , but by the Holy Spirit . We are too apt to consider means as in themselves , operative, and to rely upon the performance of them for salvation, when the truth probably is that they are as inoperative as tools are in the hand of the artificer ,- and that every thing that has taken place, doth o or will take place in the material and moral world ought to be resolved into immeadate agency of Jehovah, and of course that he is all in all.- He has been pleased to exhibit his character to man in both worlds in a manner adapted to his constitution. The objects presented to our senses, cannot but be perceived, and, if rightly understood, will manifest the Eternal Power and Godhead of their auther, and so would in a clearer light the objects presented to us in the Gospel of truth,- but alass by sin we have lost the image of God,- are blind to spiritual things, and until regenerated are blots in the moral world.- The illuminated receive from the Sun of rightousness indistinguishable and increasing light, light which shines more and more to the perfect day. Although they do not at present see clearly the truths contained in inportant doctrines; yet they will hereafter, as they advance in knowledge, have a more intensive and clearer view of them, and more and more admire and love the God of truth and love. They who absolutely reject any of the doctrines of Christianity are destitute at leastof modesty and humility.- but they are in the hands of a merciful Being who can change their hearts, and turn them as rivers of water are turned.- We are commanded to exercise benevolence to all men, yea, to love even our enemies; but is there not a perculiar love; or a greater degree of love due from saints to those of the household of faith than to infidels;- and can a church member set down with an equal delight and satisfaction at the table of the Lord with those who in sentiments relative to important doctrines differ esentially from him, as with those who therein accord with him? - I presume that members of churches in your state and that of Vermont, prior to admission, give their assent to certain covenants. If they do, and any of them afterwards reject any article or articles thereof, are they nevertheless permitted to partake of the sacrament with those who adhere to their covenant engagements?--

Means, as they regard the material system, do not appear to me to be more justly considered by some people than are means relative to the moral System. They are apt to view them as causes, It seems to me that they are effects, that there are properly speaking, no proximate, remote, or secondary causes,- that there is but one great cause, of all things, and as I have already said that every effect which takes place in the universe is the effect of God's immediate agency. We are accustomed to hear and speak of the laws of gravity, attraction, cohesion, affinity etc., and those we call Laws of Nature, and some Philosophers have considered Nature as a power distinct from Diety. Buffon if I recollect rightly made a formal address to that imaginary existance, but before he got through his rapturous effusion he introduced a first cause of all things. When things proceed in their usual course, they are said to go on in the course of Nature, and when the

deviate the deviation is termed supernatural by which expressi ions many are led to suppose that Nature can of herself do things within a certain, undefined compass, and that what is extraordinary and above her power requires a superior Agent, For my part I conceive that all things even [(torn)the everlasting infinitely well ordered (torn) Am. - Christ rose from the dead by the determinate counsel ~~of him by whose deter-~~ of him by whose determinate counsel minate he was crucified,- that his operations are not governed pro re nata- according to occurrences.- that God is omnipresent not merely as a Spectator, but as an agent, and that without his agency in vain would the sun shine, the rain descend, and the dew fall there would be no vegetation - and in like manner you may plant, and Dr. Kirkland water - it will be vain, unless God gives the increase.- Whatever comes to pass was predestined and is effected by Him.- Some Means are by some Minister stiled <u>efficacious</u> means. I dislike all modes of expression that in any degree tend to exclude the eternal activity of Jehovah, or to introduce into the mind notions of a power distinct and independant of the Creator of and Governor of the Universe.--

From this letter you may collect my opinion of the depravity of human nature, of the Atonement of Christ, and of the operation of the Holy Spirit. With regard to the first you have not fully given your opinion, as to the second you send me the opinion of others, and so of the third and last.- I think ~~you have~~ I have examined your remarks, and answered them with the freedom of a friend. Permit me to say that I wish you had been more explicit and not left me to look for your ~~view~~ opinion among those of others,- and that you had mentioned the doctrines you deem important, and the truths of the greatest importance assented to by others, who reject the doctrines which appear to you important. I then should have been able to discover how far we agree and to know what you and those you allude to consider as doctrines important and of the greatest magnitude.- If there be any errors in what I have advanced I know you will impute them to human parum ~~pro~~ cauta natura, and I beg you to correct them in your next.-

Wishing you all health and every blessing
I am addectionately
(signature cut out)

A fair opportunity offering to send this by Wm. Gibbs I think it better to send it now than to keep it until your return.

Newport March 23d 1807

Dear Mr Channing,

I have received a billet from Mr S. T. Northam in which he informs me that he shall set out for Boston to morrow morning, and that he will bring the chocolate to Newport which Mr Dana has purchased for me. You will therefore be so kind as to desire him to send it to your house, as soon as may be, and bound up by Edmund in the same compact manner as he did that which I brought from Cambridge last fall. — Mr Northam writes that he shall be absent ten days; but dont say how long he shall be in Boston. Dont fail to have it ready for him when he shall call upon you for it. — I send by him three of Mr Potter's funeral Sermons for Miss Potter. —

Your brother W. Channing has been so kind as to call upon me, and to give me an account of the state of your family. I am glad to hear that W. was better than he had been, and should have been happier to have heard that you had enjoyed perfect health. You know both of you by experience where it is to be found. Come therefore both of you to Newport as soon as the weather will permit. We shall be glad to see you, and you shall not fail of being entertained with Potter's wife's mothers. —

I have passed more comfortably than I could have expected through a very disagreeable Winter. The bad humours which has so long afflicted me, although abated, still sticks to me, but by habit is rendered tolerable, and perhaps has prevented some worse disease.

Considering how much health and spirits I have enjoyed through a long course of years I ought to be thankful to kind Providence, and not repine at a little scratching and burning. — Compared with Job's my humor shrinks to nothing, but altho' I have experienced sometimes heavy irritation, yet however I have seldom fetched blood by scratching, and have never had recourse to a potsherd for relief. — I would not however conclude from this remark that I dare to compare my patience with that of the most patient man who ever lived. Perhaps if I had suffered as great irritation as he did I might have torn myself with as coarse a thing as he did. — Patience is a virtue somebody says, that is apt to be fatigued with exercise: — But ought we not seriously to consider from whence afflictions come, and endure with patience what is intended for our good. The text of the last sermon I heard William preach, and the ingenious discourse he made from it I have not forgotten. —

Mr. Bradley soon will quit his congregation for one I believe in Connecticut where he expects a better support. — The Methodists have erected a proud tower to their Meeting-house, and have procured a bell which is much heavier and will make more noise than any other in this town. These probably will draw away some fluctuating characters from our Calvanistic Meetings. — The Methodists hold that by our own righteousness tho we can work out our salvation. — Are they who attend their preaching more virtuous than others? —

Mr. Robbins after having come to be almost a Moravian has turned from them, and again frequents our Meeting. — What mutable beings we are! — What changes I shall experience I cannot tell; — but I firmly believe I shall always be an unchangeable friend to you and yours —

Not knowing that Mr. Northey or any one of their family would go to Boston I sent a packet by a Mr. Jordan Pringle of Marblehead who left this town yesterday directed to your Brother

Mrs. Adams

Mrs
Lucy Channing
Boston

C

Harv College
7. Sept 1818

Dear Sir

I ask a meeting of the Corporation at Cambridge on tuesday next at ten O. A. M. With great regard

J. T. Kirtland

Rev. Mr. Channing

Rgd due to him –
We shd think of him –
We shd learn his ways
where all things – What
is the word not read?
We shd talk of him –
Our relate to him felt
most in life.
His ways shd be all
in all to us – not a
slight circumstance,
but must engross of
our conduct –
How familiar ought
we to be with his
instructs –

Commemorate him – How
can we neglect him – his ta-
ble –
We shd hail him as the
best gift –
rejoice in him –
Bring him near –
Spread him out in mind –
He shd change our whole
life to us – shd be all in
all –

Eloise — E P

Boston April 1809

My dear friends

I need not introduce the following advice or labor to secure it a favorable reception by assuring you of the sincere affection from which it flows. You know that I have felt no common interest in your situation; & I must believe that you will ascribe the admonitions I am to offer, to the desire of contributing to your usefulness & happiness. The confidence you have reposed in me, encourages & even binds me to speak with frankness. Some of my remarks may appear too minute, but your success depends very much on your attention to little things — It is of the first importance that you impress the people amongst whom you are to live with a conviction of your steadiness & stability of character. I feel as little solicitude on this point. If once you are considered thoughtless, volatile, & injudicious, your prospect of success is gone. Your talents will be of little avail. Parents cannot be blamed for requiring a considerate character in those to whom they commit their children. This impression of steadiness you must evince not only by your unremitted attention in school, but by your deportment & appearance at other seasons. You will be cheerful but not gay. In your manners you cannot but be easy, but you must avoid every thing which approaches wildness. In your dress you cannot but discover taste; but it will be better to fall below, than to rise above the common standard of fashion in the place where you live. Do not act from the impulse of the moment; but deliberate before you decide. You know what is meant by the word judgment I hope you will possess it, & I hope you will be thought to possess it. — In conversation you will not forget that you are among strangers & that this situation requires a caution & reserve to which you have never before been called. You must also remember that in a small town, it is the fashion to repeat what ought to be forgotten.

Let not your spirits run away with you. Be not extravagent in expressing delight & admiration. Do not aim at shining much. You will be brilliant enough without effort. Seek esteem & confidence rather than admiration. Admirers are not friends & for one who admires, there are twenty to envy & discover faults. Do not make perhaps other people subjects of conversation. You will see & hear much to displease you; but as you are going to instruct the young & not to reform the old, you may hold your peace with a safe conscience ——— Be very cautious in forming intimacies. Your respectability as well as your happiness requires that you should attach yourselves to persons of improved hearts & understandings, of solid worth, of acknowledged excellence. Indulge in company with moderation. Learn to be happy in yourselves & at home. Partake sparingly of public amusements, & religiously deny yourselves every pleasure inconsistent with the active faithful discharge of your daily duties. I am very desirous that you should avoid the character of fashionable women, & you will remember that this character is fixed on persons more easily in a small than in a large town —— You know the great circumspection required of young ladies who live alone, without parent guardean or brother. You must select your acquaintance from the other sex with the greatest care. Keep at a distance those whose morals are not inepreachable. I hope that the young gentlemen who will visit you (especially those from this town & who may call on you as they pass thro' R——) will know the peculiar delicacy & respect to which young ladies in your situation are entitled. If they do not, your reserve must teach them. I feel very desirous to guard you on this point. The very circumstance of your being alone, without the restraining presence of persons older than yourselves, may encourage frequent visits of the kind I have mentioned, & I know that young ladies of cheerful communicative tempers are sometimes insensibly led to a degree

of sociability with the other sex, which appears to them perfectly
correct, but which the world are ready to censure as a mark
of inconsiderateness & levity. You must not enforce these
rules without exception. You will have one visitor from
Boston of so grave a countenance & so much your friend
that you may safely continue to him all the confidence
with which he has been favored. Your occupation will
render exercise necessary, perhaps every day. Do not think
me too minute, if I advise you to vary your walks &
to walk in retired parts of the town. Here end my pre-
sidential rules. You will forgive me that when I tell
you that I have written to You, just as I should to my
sisters. You must have learnt not to trust to the candor
of the world. Give them if possible, not one ground for
questioning your steadiness of character - Now for your
School. Endeavor to introduce the most perfect system at
the beginning, & be very slow to admit any changes
which more experienced people may think very good, unless
its utility be obvious. Pay great attention to the order of your
School & to the manners of the children, & when they leave you
see that they retire with silence & regularity. I need not
urge it upon you to unite with this strict discipline
great mildness & perfect freedom from passion. (Your counten-
ces do not look as if they had often been clouded with anger
Let not School-keeping injure them.) I wish that you would
introduce some religious exercise. Let the scriptures be daily
read in a reverential manner by yourselves or by some good
reader in the School - Be careful to teach every branch

thoroughly - A school is lost when it gets the character of being showy & superficial - Let me conclude with urging you to enter into the Spirit of your occupation. Learn to love it. Try to carry into it a little enthusiasm. Let it not be your task but your delight. Feel that providence is honoring in committing to you the charge of im mortal minds. Study the characters of your pupils, & the best modes of exciting & improving them. You have heart enough, I fix it is on this noble object - And now my dear friends be of good courage. Bear up with a calm steady resolution under the trials of life. Lift your eyes with gratitude & confidence to your father in Heaven & he will never forsake you. Wherever you go, you will be surrounded with his presence, & if you approve yourselves his humble faithful children you cannot but be happy. To his providence I commend you -

Boston. May 15. 1809.

+ Second page -

Dear & Honord Sir.

Although we have not corresponded this long time, I have yet heard very frequently of you through others. I enquired particularly of Edward about your health. He mentioned that your appetite & spirits were good, but that you seemed more & more disinclined to exercise, & that you were ~~seemed to be~~ increasing in fore. We were sorry to hear this last part of his account. We know that old age loves repose, & we do not wish to disturb it. But we should be glad, could we persuade you to leave your room once or twice a day & to take a walk long enough to quicken the circulation without exhausting you. We ask particularly to persuade you to make up for the long rest of winter by a journey this way. We hope that your cares have ceased with the Embargo, that our new President has given relief to you as well as

our country. You must remember that last year we were deprived of your annual visit — You have heard of my mother's indisposition. I rejoice to tell you that she is now convalescent. She has to day moved from one chamber to another. The rheumatic swellings have subsided, her pains are almost gone, her appetite increases, & we hope that she will be better than she was before her sickness. These domestic afflictions work not, I hope, unregarded by us. We are taught that the ties which bind us together are weak & soon to be dissolved. What tenderness & spirituality ought then to give to our domestic connections. I have very little to say to you about myself. My health & spirits are tolerably good. Were I allowed to choose, I would ask for ability to apply more to my studies, but I believe ~~I know~~ that all things are ordered aright. I know already more than I practise myself, & more than I communicate to others. Why then should I be so anxious to add to my stock of knowledge. I

have a strong propensity to lead the life of a recluse & a book-worm, & perhaps if I were able to study all the time I should neglect the active duties of my profession. At present, I am driven from my study every day by the unpleasant sensations which long application produces. With this exception, I am very well. My life is very tranquil. I will not mingle with the contentions of the world. Angry politicians & theologians are raging around me, but I try not to hear, & if this is impossible, I avail myself of my defect of memory, & forget the clamor. Certainly life is too short, its duties too numerous & weighty, to leave us much time to waste in altercation. I should be very glad to hear from you. I know that I have forfeited all such favor, but may I not expect from you something milder than strict justice - Give dear love to you & your family - With great respect & affection

Yr grandson W. L. Channing

Honble William Ellery Esqr-

Newport-

R I-

Boston - May 31 - 1809 C

IIIII

Dear Eloise.

Your letter gave me great pleasure. I concluded from it that you were contented, happy & careful. I hope you need not a monitor to direct your mind to the great source of your blessings. You seem to have reached a quiet sheltered harbor; & you will not forget to look back to the uncertainties & agitations of your past state, & to trace a merciful providence guiding you ~~through your difficulties~~ to the peace & security you now enjoy. I hope that your prospects of success have excited some grateful emotions in your heart. I felt not a little solicitude when you left us. Perhaps I wrong my native town. I confess I did not anticipate the cordial reception you have met with. But this is not the first time that I have been taught, that our father in heaven grants more than we ask or can even think. - You see from what I have written that I consider your situation as a very pleasant one. You will not suppose, that my imagination has represented

you as remarkably happy. Should I am deceived you have much to learn, & perhaps much to suffer before you will deserve to be called happy. Happiness is the uniform serenity of a well governed mind, of disciplined affections, of a heart steadily devoted to objects which reason & religion recommend. Accordeny to my tame imagination, happiness is a very demure lady, almost as prim as the wives of the pilgrims of New Eng'and. She smiles indeed most benignantly; but very seldom laughs; she may sigh, but seldom sobs; the tear may start into her eye, the tear of gratitude & sympathy, but it seldom streams down the cheek. Her steps is sometimes quick and; but she does not waste her spirits & strength in violent & unnatural efforts. She cultivates gaiety not more than fancy. She employs imagination not to drop up airy pictures, not to throw a false iridescent lustre over the surrounding scenery, but to array in attractive splendor distant objects, which reason assures her are most glorious & excellent, but which from their distance are apt to fade away before her eye & to lose their power over her heart. Now I confess

that my dear of happiness & of my friend ~~Clara~~ do not perfectly coincide. Time & affliction, however, will bring them nearer to each other. Perhaps reflection may render affliction less necessary. — I little thought, when I began my lette, that I should pin out, ~~such a person as Allegory.~~ ~~Not the fault of all your own.~~ I will try not to repeat it — I was quite pleased with your plan for the school. If any other distribution of your time ~~studies~~ should appear to me better I will communicate it. You must let experience correct your system. The great rule for all systems appears ~~to also~~ to be this, — we should so arrange our different duties, labors & exertions, that they will relieve, aid & inspirit each other, & all be executed with the greatest promptness, vigor & success — I am much pleased with your plan of a monitor. When I first read the word in your letter, it recalled to me a very terrific image, a petty tyrant elevated above the other scholars to watch all their movements, & report their little devia-tions with a malignant partiality to the instruct-or. In former days, I smarted under such a mon-itor. But yours has a kinder office. I will write you another time on the subject of honora-ry distinctions. I fear them exceedingly. Can there be no substitute for them — I was very much grat-

ified by what you say of Miss Brenton. I do hereby revoke in favor of this lady all the restraints & prohibitions which I formerly laid on your admiration. I wish you to admire, for admiration is an assimilating feeling. I take it for granted that you are in no danger of that vulgar admiration which overwhelms the faculties, & produces that timid sense of inferiority which damps all exertion. I have formed my opinion of Miss B chiefly from report & I cannot answer for its correctness. But my imagination loves to dwell on the character I have ascribed to her. She seems to me to have ~~attracted from~~ the turned all the feelings of a susceptible heart into one current, to have collected all her affections & faculties on one noble disinterested object. She has not perhaps as much talent as a friend whom I could mention. But she has more singleness of heart, more benevolence, more piety, & more truth & firmness over her affections, & a stronger conviction that her powers are given not to be dissipated but used, as a trust not an independent possession. From the little which I have heard of this lady, I have felt humbled myself humbled to the earth. Her entire self-devotion to her great & good work, has made me feel as if I were doing nothing, were living entirely to myself. Perhaps I had better say nothing

more ~~than~~ about the good Lady. I will endeavor not to weaken my earnest recommendation of a sober mind, & a disciplined imagination, by showing that I want them myself — I am pleased with your plan of accompanying Miss B to Bethlehem — provided it will not interfere with the improvement & the reputation of your school. — Since you left us, nothing unexpected has taken place. Our common & very dear friend Sarah Langdon has left us, & gone I hope to a happier society. She bore pain & confinement so meekly, so patiently, so chearfully, that my pity was almost lost in esteem & admiration. Her death like her life was gentle & tranquil. As she approached her end, she discovered more & more the strength of her religious impressions & hopes. Her affectionate heart retained its solicitude for you & your sister thro her long & distressing sickness. The death of such a friend, combined with your other changes, ought to lead your thoughts forward to the eternal world — Your other friends I believe are pretty well — I must close, but not without adding a ~~few~~ line

to expect to your sister Nancy my affectionate remembrance. She is not our correspondent, but we feel an interest in her character & happiness.

I have written a much longer letter than I intended, but I shall have left to say in my next - I do not ask from you any thing like concealment, but perhaps it will be well for you not to mention that I have written you, because I have neglected several friends in Newport who seem to have a better claim to this attention than one not belonging to our family. Some of these might overlook the peculiar circumstances which justify me in passing them by for one who would appear to them a stranger - I merely suggest this. It is not a thing of much importance - You know that it will always gratify me to hear from you. I wish you sometimes to write my mother. Your late letter enlivened her considerably - She is getting strength as fast as we could expect -

Yr sincere friend - WEC -

P.S. I send this letter by the mail that you may have seasonable notice that a box or bundle of your paintings has been sent on the baggage waggon to Newport -

PAID 20

2

May 31. 1809. +

Miss Eloise R Payne

To the care of Mr W. G. Channing

Newport

R I +

1809

+ Extract relative to Boston. Monday. June 6th

Dear Mr Galston - & Ann.

I know of no immediate opportunity to Newport, but as I propose entering on a long journey in a day or two, I will write a few lines, & leave them for the first traveller who will take charge of them. This day has been a very interesting day to us. My mother after her long confinement left us at noon & has gone with a pleasant party to Ball Town Springs. Her spirits were good & her prospects are fair. She will be able I think to go 30 or 40 miles a day without fatigue. We must be very insensible if we can recollect her past helplessness & pain, & not feel some gratitude for her present ease & strength. Mrs Godman & Lucy accompanied her with three other ladies unknown to you, but very agreeable as I am told. They go without a gentleman, but they rely on their number & years. What man would have the courage to attack six women? They have gone with a driver remarkably trusty & obliging, who is well acquainted with the roads, & who is accustomed to have ladies under his care. — But this

is not the most interesting event of this day. (at just
hour ago Washington & Ann, after their long & latent
courtship were united in marriage. We consider this
a happy event, but Ann is too important a mem-
ber of our family to be resigned without something
like sorrow. The ceremony made us ~~sick~~ rather ~~sorrowful~~ sorrowful.
~~sorrowful~~, I do not wonder at this effect. The obliga-
tions of the marriage covenant are so strong & ex-
tensive, & the consequences of this union so vast
& so uncertain, that I should pronounce a person
thoughtless in the extreme, who should exhibit no
seriousness on this occasion. Your grand-daughter
~~her~~ found, I believe, an ~~off~~ excellent husband
one who from principle & affection will make
her happiness his constant object. I ~~will~~ hope that
she will settle at no great distance from us;
but we have not yet sufficient taste for the
arts to give Mr. A the encouragement
he deserves. We have indeed money enough
to spend on cumbrous ~~furn~~ furniture which
another generation will throw into the gar-
ret as antiquated & absurd, but we cannot
afford to adorn our walls with the productions
of genius, which delineate the unchanging

features & beauties of nature, & to which the lapse of time will only impart new value — To-morrow I propose beginning a journey to the West-ward with my very dear friend, Mr Thacher, whose health is very poor. We have a common profession & common feelings, & though we rode from home, we shall never wander far from Theology — I have no time to add more. On my return I shall hope to hear from you. In the mean time, suppose that you should write to the bride. — Remember me affectionately to your household. Please to tell Aunt Hedman, that I had a very pleasant ride to & from Taunton. I was not a little interested with her conversation on her domestic trials, prospects &c —

With great respect
Yr affect Grandson
W E Channing —

Rev.d W. E. Channing
with an Act. of the marriage
of his Sister Anne, the Depart
ure of his mother, Sister Lucy
and Co. for Ball town Springs
of his proposed Journey to the
Westward with J. Thatcher
indesperied
dated June — 1809

31

15

+ 9

1809 June -

Rec.d ... Channing

Mr. & Mrs. ...

51 ...

The Rev.d William Ellery Chan.g

Newport

R.I.

Boston - June 20 - 1809

Dear Clove -

I have almost put my foot on the step of my chaise to begen a long journey. But before I move; I wish to acknowledge your last lette, & to asure you of the pleasure with which I read the details of your present situation. - Since I wrote you; I have thought & convened a little about your plan of instruction. I have one or two remarks to offer, but you must follow your own judgment rather than mine. Do you give time enough to Arithmetic? With one forenoon in the week make your scholars quick, ready Computers. I do not think [illegible] females far in this branch. The rule of three & Interest are sufficient. But can a child be taught to add, multiply & with tolerable facility, if only a few sums are performed at distant intervals? - I would next ask whether you do not introduce too many studies into one day. Were your scholars to confine themselves for a longer time to one study would they not progress faster.

for instance when they begin a rule in arithmetic, a part of speech in grammar, a country ~~in~~ or any other division of the earth in ~~Grammar~~ Geography, would it not be best to teach them to that rule, or part of speech; or country, until they are thoroughly acquainted with it. In this way, the object of their attention would be more simple & definite, they would be more sensible of their progress, they would perceive more of connection in the books they study. As you have reading & writing every day, I think you cannot object to this plan, that it does not admit sufficient variety —. I have sometimes thought that it would be useful in a school to class together only those children whose talents & application are nearly equal. Let it be understood that each scholar may rise to a superior class by increase of diligence, & I cannot conceive a more powerful excitement: classes should be multiplied according to the variety of talent & industry, & the distance between them should be so small as to encourage the hope of passing from a ~~lower to~~ a lower to a higher. Do I convey my

dear. Our classes in general consist of too large a number ~~are too numerous~~.
The bright & active part of the school are kept back by the dull & indolent - I merely throw out these hints for your consideration. I have more to add, but I have not another moment to spare: Remember me affectionately to Nancy & believe me

Yr more friend

H E C -

Miss Elouise Payne.

Newport
R I.

3

June 20, 1809.

Rev W. E. Channing

Thursday -

Dear Mr C -

I cannot let my sister go to Quincy without a line to express the pleasure with which I recollect my short visit at your house - & how fearful that you would think my imprisonment by the weather painful - but I would that every prisoner were as happy - I indeed love trees & field, & the delightful variety of nature - but these give me less pleasure than the views of an affectionate, peaceful, cultivated, happy family - I hope you did not think me indolent. I did perhaps more than you imagined, though less than I might & should have done - I send to Susan a shell which I found

on Chelsea beach, a very humble
contribution to her cabinet, but
not without its beauty. To your
little ones you must give my love
& tell them that I hope we
shall be less shy when we meet
again. I send you two of your books;
I have glanced over Griselda, & hope
that almost any trial of my
virtues & patience will be attempt-
ed rather than such a loveny wife-
have you ever known the original
of this picture. It is drawn with
so much life that I presume it
is taken from nature, but I have
not met with it — I left in my
chamber two books for persons in
humble life which you promised to
lend me, & I left my knife, I be-
lieve, below. My sister will take

charge of them.— It is not necessary that I should express to Mr L & yourself the respect & affection which I bear to you.

Yr affectly

W. Ellery Channing

P.S. My room has been put in order during my absence, & the consequence is that I cannot find one of the books referred to above, the Antidote to miseries &c— I find in my library an agricultural book which perhaps may interest Mr L & therefore send it—

Wm Channing

Cut out for the Signature

Autograph

Mrs Quincy –

1810
April
6

Friday

Dear Eliza - I can only write you a few lines by my brother - I truly regret the necessity under which you are placed of leaving Newport. The unwillingness of the people to resign you, in one view, gives me pleasure, but I lament that you cannot comply with their wishes. I feel however that you are not permitted to consult my feelings or your own. If Providence offers you a wider sphere of usefulness & a larger compensation, I would not say a word to keep you where you are. — I fear that you have formed too correct an estimate of Providence manners & character. I read your remarks on this subject with peculiar satisfaction. I felt that you would not need some pages of cautions which I had begun to prepare for you. I know not whether your change of residence will make you happier than

you have been in Newport. That you will be exposed to greater trials & temptations I very much fear. But I shall see you before you enter on your new duties & will then furnish you, if you are not already overstocked, with my best advice — I have expressed your wishes to Mrs Cummings. She will be very glad to render you every service, either by corresponding with you, or by introducing you to her School. I believe that I can answer for him that he will aid you from a disinterested devotion to the cause of education & improvement — I My brother will tell you all about us, & we hope that you will soon be with us —

Yr sincere friend W C C—

Fac simile

Miss Eloise Payne.

Newport - R.I.

6

— 6th April 1810.

Mon Ami 9

Boston - Oct^r -

1810 C

My dear Eloise -

I made you some promises when you were here which I have not had leisure to fulfil until this time. Our domestic troubles have occupied much of my attention. But I am at length relieved, in a painful & trying way indeed, by the sailing of my brother for Janeiro ... to-day. We have hopes, for who can live without hope. But we have much to apprehend. We know that cases much more threatning than hers have been relieved by a voyage. This is encouraging, & what is infinitely more encouraging is the conviction, that he is the case of it a merciful & merciful providence, of him who gives life, & who alone knows how & when to resume his gift, where will we cannot & we desire not to oppose — I have thought often of you, & I could wish that the thought had brought me more consolation. But I continue to have fears for you. I fear that your mind is not accommode-

ted as it ought to be to your state - I fear that you have not energy enough to hold near to your mind the advantages, the usefulness, the possible happiness of your occupation, until you shall more than acquiesce in it, until you shall feel something like elevation at the thought of the good you may communicate - It has ever been my opinion that you might qualify yourself for teaching the highest branches to your sex, might become the Agent of instructing, & might assist in raising the character of the education of your sex - I say that I have ever thought you capable. But something more than capacity is wanted - a strong purpose, a glowing zeal, a steady persevering application - & can I hope all these from a lady made up of nerves, & feelings, & whom a little neglect can mortify, & whom a work of fancy can seduce from study - I do not mean to say, that this is your picture - I have drawn a caricature perhaps, but have I not given something of a likeness - Now you will have sagacity enough to discern that the

fear? I have expressed an ab[surd] design to be excitement
& tell you what I fear, because I hope much from the
expression of my fear - I understand your school in Prov-
idence is discontinued. No matter. All you want at pres-
ent is a support, & time enough to qualify you for
~~best~~ instruction in every thing which a female ought
to learn. You ought not & you need not be confined
to the drudgery of a common school. Apply to chem-
istry, botany, natural philosophy, history, astronomy,
rhetoric, & the science of mind & morals, & you will
not only be ~~the most~~ one of the most useful wom-
en (I fear this excitement will be too faint) but
you may become one of the most distinguished
in the country
I am sorry that the disordered state of my
I tender it necessary to apply the st
stimulus of ambition. But I fear that ration
self-interest, & pure benevolence will hardly
which Mr Cummins has m
use the desired effect - I send you two elementary bo
on natural ~~history~~ philosophy which you will gratify me by accep
ting, & still more by studying. From there you may hast
to larger works - I should be glad to hear from you &
to know how far your views coincide with my suggestions.
I suppose my friend Harriet is not in Providence. Rem-
ember me affectionately to Mrs Kane. - Ask here remember you
Your sincere friend W C B—

Miss Eloise Payne—

Providence—

Oct 1810

7

Boston - Friday Evg. Nov. 2

1810

Dear Eloise -

I have just received your letter, & must answer it immediately or I may lose the opportunity of writing you before your decision is formed. Your letter is so much in the style diplomatique that I hardly know to what opinion you incline; but I have no hesitation in advising you to accept the offer which has been made you. In Newport your services are desired, are sought after, & will be valued as they deserve. In Newport you are assured of a compensation, you have something fixed, permanent, offered you, & you will be released from that painful uncertainty of mind which has so long distressed you. In Newport you will be able to become what I wish you to be, to qualify yourself for the highest enstruction which your

ex can receive. Your object requires time & application. Newport will afford you leisure & quiet enough for it - In Providence you can hardly procure yourself the respect or reward which you will receive in N. I can conceive but one objection to N. You may not find associates altogether congenial - but I would advise you to make the experiment, to cultivate the acquaintance of the most improved, & you may find most valuable friends. Render your pupils will soon be companions. In N two you will have a healthier climate. The offer made you I think flattering, It offer gives you independence - Aunt Gibbs has read your letter & advises you to go, & so does the judicious & affectionate Ruth - I have written in great haste, & have formed my opinion in a very few minutes. but the case seems to me very clear - Perhaps however there are circumstances with which I am unac-

guaented. You may have feelings, which I (who
am without feelings) cannot easily comprehend.
If there are any circumstances which will prevent
your application of your mind & heart to your
work, perhaps you had bette decline. Duty such
there ought not to be. Remember I give you
only my opinion. You who know more than I
can of your feelings & situation must decide.
It is my prayer that you may be guided to
a prudent & happy decision — Peace be with
you my friend. Let me know when you
have given your answer. Do not imagine
you are a forsaken being. We all feel a
solicitude for you — Farewell — We

Remember my advice, "Be explicit."

9 3 1808.
Nov. 1810. Date wrong
no?

Miss Eloise Payne.
Providence
R I -

So does the judicious & affection...
have written in great haste, & have forme[d]
my opinion in a very few minutes. but the
case seems to me very clear - Perhaps however
there are circumstances with which I am unac-

C

1810.

Decr 6 Boston

Dear Eloise-

I am truly gratified with your ~~[illegible]~~ prospects. You have now a fair opportunity of exerting & proving your powers. In Newport you may be useful, as useful as in any situation which I can imagine; you may establish a solid & extensive reputation; you may acquire more than a competence & may gratify yourself for the highest branches of instruction. I have often exhorted to you my ~~[illegible]~~ work, that you would devote yourself to the improvement of your sex, that you would exert yourself to raise the standard of female education &c. From the silence you observe on this subject, I imagine you feel a little as Erasmus did, when he excused ~~herself from~~ his unwillingness to meet difficulty & danger by saying, that he was not born to be a martyr. I do not however intend to expose you to martyrdom. I recommend to you a life, which I think I should prefer to all others were I in your place. But perhaps I expect too much

from you & perhaps I calculate too much on my own virtue. Perhaps were I in your situation my ambition would be quite on a level with that of the rest of the world, & my principles would be satisfied with a course of labors by which my own interests might be best secured. Do not look sober, as if I intended this for you. I do believe that you are actuated by more generous sentiments, but I fear that as yet there is more of conpabe than principle in your virtue, & that you can hardly pursue with unwavering steadiness the path which invites you to distinguished usefulness, excellence & honor — You ask how I approve your conduct in relation to the offer made you from Newport. I was sorry when I heard the condition on which your acceptance was suspended, as I feared that you might be considered too desirous to make your establishment lucrative. However it seems your wishes were granted, & my apprehensions were unfounded. — I rejoice that you will have some leisure, & I hope you will use it well. You speak of your visit to New York. I cannot very well advise you,

as your duty may call you that way. I should be sorry indeed if pleasure could draw you there. If you can, consistently with your duties, reside with Mrs Lane, & spend much of your time on your own improvement, I am confident that you will not regret ~~your~~ acceptance of her friendly invitation.—

Why can you not begen your school in Newport in March instead of April. I fear that your scholars in that place will lose ground, perhaps lose their industrious habits, in so long a vacation as you intend giving them. Perhaps too, ~~the~~ so long a repose may injure the teacher as well as the pupils— I hope you will not grow weary of my advice, but if I am ever troublesome you must remember that you have yourself invested me with the office of a monitor. I sometimes fear, that my friendship too frequently takes this form of anxiety. Can you not assist in curing this infirmity— I shall always be glad to hear from you— I dare not promise to be a punctual correspondent, but you will hear from some of us often enough to keep alive your recollection of Boston— There will soon be an opportunity for Rio de Janeiro— Send your letter as soon as you can— All are well & desire love to you— Do remember me to my Providence friends—

yr sincere friend
W C Bryant

8

Dear L. I sent this letter because I have written it & have not time to write another - but on reading it, I am far from being satisfied with it - It expresses very faintly the affectionate interest I take in all your concerns - but perhaps it is better than none -

Decr 6. 1810. Delivery ? 1808. No!

She went to Orange before the spring of 1809.

She left Orange in 1810.

She is going to Orange in 1811 & going to Orange 1812. I do not understand the matter.

Mrs Edouin Payne

Dr Madison

1811 C

Thursday -

My dear Eloise -

I have this moment received your letter, & I proceed ~~say heart to~~ immediately to answer it - It found my heart softened by a recent affliction, & it has given an increased tenderness to my feelings. Forgive me my friend if I have inflicted a wound - Believe me I have never been insensible to your difficulties & trials, & if I have ever seemed severe it has never been my intention to depress but always to fortify & animate. I do not seek to exculpate myself from your charge of applying to you censure too indefinite to be useful. I can easily believe that in many respects I have been an injudicious guide - I know not much of the world. My speculations have led me to consider human nature in general. I have but a faint discernment of individual character. I have sometimes thrust from the office you have assigned me of watching over you, counselling & guiding you. Your confidence

has indeed encouraged me, & your situation has made me feel it a duty to afford you every aid in my power. But I have again & again feared that I know little of the mind on which I am operating. On this account I have often satisfied myself with general remarks & have left the application to your own heart. Perhaps you have sometimes considered too much as implied in what I have written. You cannot however but have ~~perceived~~ discovered in all my letter an sincere affectionate solicitude for you, a conviction that you may form an excellent & useful character, & an earnest desire to aid you in the ascent to wisdom, virtue, honor & immortality. Elsie, I cannot bear to think that I have oppressed a mind languid with sickness, & fainting under many sorrows. But thus it is with all human friendship. There is only one friend, who is at all times kind, who knows all our infirmities & griefs, & whose rebukes are ever merciful - To him I commend you - ✝ In the beginning of this letter I have alluded to an affliction which I have been called to sustain. It has pleased God this week to

remove from us a friend in whom I have long felt a strong & increasing interest, Miss Ann Lowell. You undoubtedly heard of her frequently whilst you lived in this town, but her character, her worth, you probably never knew - It has been my privilege & happiness for some time to know enjoy an intimacy with this singular woman; this highly favoured child of God. She has been a great sufferer for several years, but she has suffered so meekly & patiently her char- acter has been so refined & elevated by suffering that she has embraced all around her with such a [illegible] & tender affection amidst pains, which would have rendered others [illegible] to all but themselves, she discovered a love an- abated energy of mind at the moment that her emaciated frame seemed just ready to resign its breath, that I have contemplated her with a delight & admiration which very few of our race have inspired. I have understood, that in early life she was the victim of an ungoverned sensibility, & that her nervous system was exceedingly deranged, & indeed it was easy to see that all her feelings tended

to except. But religion, that refining & subduing principle, exerted its tendest influence on her heart. She was called to a struggle peculiarly arduous, but she was conqueror - She respected me very very far beyond what I deserved, & what was more pleasing, left humiliating, she regarded me with a tender affection & reposed in me no small confidence. I cannot mourn for her departure; but it is a thought which almost saddens me that I am no more to hear her animated voice, no more to commune with that powerful mind, that warm & pure heart on this side the grave - but to her prom[illegible] virtuous friends she is not lost - There is society in heaven - Yrs — W C C -

Mr Close Payne.
Providence
R. I.

+ 1131

Close,
J a

C

Boston Jan. 8. 1811

Dear Sir -

My comm, Richard Dana, is going to Baltimore, to establish himself in the profession of the Law. It is very important that he should be introduced to respectable character in that city, & you will render him a very acceptable service by giving him letter to any such with whom you may be acquainted. I know that your attachment to his family will incline you to contribute to his advancement - & from my acquaintance with him I consider him worthy of whatever aid his friends can afford. His uprightness, application, amiable character & good principles have obtained him the confidence of his friends - He is led to make Baltimore his residence because he thinks he can advance more

rapidly there than in this town, which is crowded with lawyers, & perhaps you know that he has a motive for rapid advancement, which you can estimate better than I can. He wants to be married. He goes to Providence next Friday, where he will stay till Tuesday or Wednesday, (the 14th or 15th), of next week. If you can send any letters by that time, he will get them. I presume he will stay at Channing's — There is one more subject on which I wish to consult you. I have now in my hands about 1300 Dollars of my mothers, which I wish to invest. A gentleman, in whose judgment I confide, has advised me to purchase me United States 6 pr cent stock, which he thinks may be bought 1 below par. I should wish to know your opinion. — We are all well, & all unite in affectionate remembrance to you & Mrs C & children & other friends.

Your affect.te Nephew

W E Channing.

W Ellery Channing
Jan 8 1828

10

Walter Channing Esq
Newport
R I

Boston - 1811 - Feb. 27 -

Dear Eloise -

I give you many thanks for the letters you have written me. I ~~wish~~ hope you will not be discouraged by my silence - I was truly gratified by the accounts you gave of your family - A brighter day seems to be rising upon them & I hope their trials have prepared them to enjoy & improve it. Your eldest brother can never recover the time he has lost, or unlearn all the habits he has acquired - but he may have learnt the utter emptiness of all applause but that which follows virtuous & useful exertion, & a measure of this applause he may & I trust will acquire in his new pursuit - I wish his present & future success - I am glad to hear that Thacher unites patient application with that an-

enthusiasm & ardor which I used to see in his open & happy countenance - Tell him that ~~little~~ Forham has hardly a rival in the academy of which he is a member, & that he possesses talents & good deportment have obtained him sufficient patronage to complete his education - aunt Esther I well remember, & I should not be easily reconciled to myself, were her benign & tranquil countenance to fade from my mind. I ~~am glad~~ thank her for retaining some kind recollections of her former pastor, in a city where she enjoys the instructions of so many eloquent & zealous preachers - To your father you will present my respects & ~~best~~ my sincere wishes that his declining years may find a solace in the virtues & happiness of her children, & in the cheering hopes of a better life - Lucy & Nancy are remembered by me & by us all

by us all with affection. I hope that affliction has given the stability of principle to their many amiable & interesting qualities, & given to religion an ascendancy over their feelings & loves — There remains but one of the family unnoticed, & to her I have expressed so many wishes, so many fears, that she will be very willing to be passed over in silence — J. J. was interested by the account you gave of the religious services of Dr M. I have heard him & know his favorable conceptn & elocution. I can only lament that such powers are not employd in recommending a purer & simpler form of Xty. I very much fear that his exposition of the faith required by Paul from the jailer to impair the influence of all his other excellencies. Is it not an evidence of the truth of Xty, that distorted & disfigured as it is by so many sects, it still exists & exerts a potent, & retains its influence over so many minds — The distinction between mysterious doctrines & mysterious facts is rather mysterious to me — Do not think that I wish

to find fault. I feel my great inferiority of talents & acquisitions; but I cannot suffer even a superior to strip me of my religion of its reasonableness, beauty & simplicity + All send love to you — Yrs affectately W P B —

Feb. 26. 1811

+

Miss Eliza Payne
New York

Boston. March. 13. 1811. C

Dear & respected Grandfather-

We have not forgotten you amidst our own sorrows- You felt an interest almost paternal in our dear Francis & can sympathize with my mother ~~her~~, on this melancholy occasion. We indeed had reason to fear this event, but like mingled so much with our fears, that it fell on us almost with the force of an unexpected. ~~X~~ I had cherished the hope of seeing my brother ~~in he~~ again, not in perfect health, but recruited in some measure by his voyage- But this privelege has not been granted, & it has pleased God even to deny us the melancholy pleasure of having his ashes deposited near us- I need not expect to you the feelings produced by this breach on a family so united as ours. With many imperfections, we have yet loved each other sincerely & tenderly, & we feel as if a part of ourselves were torn from us- I hope, in this

trying season we have all derived strength & comfort from the Gospel of consolation. We have felt that it is our Father, who loves us, who has done us so much good, & whom we are bound to love supremely, who has afflicted us, & we have said, I hope from the heart, Father, thy will be done. When I first heard the melancholy tidings, my first ~~t~~ fear was for our mother ~~her~~ - But she sustained the shock with a composure which I could not have expected. Her head, you know, is her weak part & she has complained of a pain there, but has had nothing of dizziness - It is my most earnest prayer, that God ~~now~~ would sustain her, & not add to the weight of our sorrow by calling her to myself. She has lost an excellent & most endeared child, but she has many left whose increased affection & attention will I hope in some measure supply the loss. I hope you will write to her. There is hardly any thing

which would comfort ~~you~~ her more. My sisters are very comfortable. I hope this providence will leave a lasting impression on them & on their brothers. We have been almost too prosperous ~~& in~~ in our prosperity have not seen & acknowledged sufficiently the kind author of our blessings, or dwelt sufficiently on another life. We need to suffer - This affliction has awakened my solicitude about all my friends. I have thought again & again of you, my dear Sir, who I know will feel for us & with us. I thank God, that you have been spared to us so many years, although age has brought with it many sorrows - We hope that when the season will permit, you will ~~g~~ visit us again. I feel that my long neglect does not entitle me to an answer, but I shall be very much gratified to hear from you - Be assured of the respectful & affectionate remembrance of all our family — Yr affect^te grandson

W. E. Channing -

Hon. William Ellery—

Newport

R I—

Mass. Mar. & Johnston
dated Aug. 13 & 17 } 1811
rec'd Aug. 17

Hon
M. Gallatin Treas

with note to Rev.

Nov 4. 1811- Boston-

My Dear Eliza-

I thank you for your very interesting & excellent letters - If I have not time to write you, I have at least time to read, & I promise to read with pleasure as long as you will favor me with your letters - I am ashamed to tell you, what I have so often told you, that I am crowded with business &c - There seems something like ~~a~~ the temptation in tathing continually about ~~one's~~ the constant demands made on one's time. I hope you need no assurance, that I cannot forget, & that I do not voluntarily neglect you - I only write at this time to acknowledge your two last letters, & to promise an answer - I thank you for the particulars you have communicated about Dr M. I hope you do not feel yourself under the necessity of vindicating him. I forget what I wrote you, but I certainly did

not intend to bring any charges against the Dr, or to ~~it~~ suggest that your admiration of him was unfounded - I only feared lest you, being a lady of rapid movements of mind, should jump too easily from admiration to belief - I wished to suggest that there is a process of mind, which in the schools is called pectoral research, which should precede conviction - I wished to say that we may be pleased & may be moved by what is not altogether true, that there is danger in taking any thing by the lump, that a powerful & pathetic preacher is to be heard with caution, ~~but~~ with more caution on account of his powers unless you have proof that his mind is candid, honest, impartial in proportion to its force - I was pleased with ~~the~~ your last letter, as an evidence, that you are not prone to that sluggish, & undiscriminating belief which is the ~~so~~ weakness of the age, & (may I not say with severity) of your sex - I trust I am sensible to the importance of the aid which your sex have given to ~~piety~~ religion by their affectionate piety, & earnest love; but they

have also given aid to error & enthusiasm by making their feelings the test of truth, by mistaking sympathy for conviction, by imagining that what touches & excites them most must be most true - You will not, my candid friend, mistake the design of these remarks - You will not think that I ~~am~~ wish to recommend to you a piety without warmth or tenderness - I wish to render religious sensibility, ~~more~~ stronger, more uniform, more influential on the life, by teaching you that it should be founded on clear discernment of truth - I wish to encourage the healthy sensibility of an enlightened mind, not the feverish tumult of feeling & into which many are hurried by passionate declamation, by indulgence of fancy, by ~~action~~ the reception of vague, & inconsistent views of religion ~~How you will not, my friend, imagine that~~ But I must stop - I expect ere Place here every moment to take this letter - If you can read it, I shall be satisfied - I do not expect that all my remarks will suit one who is professedly the advocate of enthusiasm - I must make my appeal from her present to her future judgment, when she shall be as old as I am - I look forward in fancy (I now & then indulge myself in a flight) to the grave Eloise advancing

towards forty, & in her calm benignant smile I see nothing but approbation of my sentiments — Ir affectt — W C

~~August 21. 1811~~
nov 4 1811
12½

Miss Eloise Payne —
Newport
R I —

Boston - Dec - 18 1[illegible] -

My dear Eloise -

I thank you for the mild spirit & candor of the letter which you sent by Sarah G - That my letter gave pain, I can easily ~~pain~~ believe. You will not believe, that I inserted it in sport - Forgive me, if I have said too much. I fear that my letter bore the marks of censoriousness. It certainly expressed disapprobation of a character which I had rather vindicate than condemn - This office of accuser I am very willing to relinquish, & with your leave we will let the unpleasant subject rest - I am not anxious to vindicate my statement & views - If incorrect in part, they ~~are~~ are I think true in the main & may be useful - Let my letter be consigned to the flames, & remember of it only that part which will make you more prudent, consistent & happy. & I write you to make a request, at which you may smile at first, but perhaps at many

deserve a serious thought. You recollect a series of moral & religious papers published weekly in the Sentinel, not long ago, under the title of Monitor - They were written by my friend Parkman, & were very acceptable & useful - I have been requested to furnish such a series for a new paper in this town, called the Weekly messenger, a paper designed for general circulation, & thus the contents, which has no advertisements, & is to be devoted to political, literary & moral discussion - Now I have not time to comply with this request - & yet I wish to aid this useful paper - You will not start, my good friend, if I prepare this labour to you - Can you not for a few months at least employ your leisure to throw together every week reflections sufficient to fill half a page of a Newspaper - ~~That you~~ I know that you are able, if you can have the time, & in this way you may prepare yourself for more serious labors - You will tell me perhaps that the

leaves of a Newspaper are like the Sybils, "Indibria
gentis" - but the wind may carry them where they
will do much good - at least you will benefit your-
self - I have only time to suggest this - beside
it will be the answer - Yrs sincerely W. L. G -

This letter will be handed you by my brother Henry -
If you will converse with him on interesting sub-
jects, & can bear with his precipitate & sometimes
redolent manner, you will find I think, that he
has not left his faculties to rust in inaction. His
best eye of a brother sees in him very much to
love - I wish him, if possible, to learn a little
of the graces, & as you & these ladies have more
than a slight acquaintance, I shall be pleased
if you can give him an introduction - I mean
to say, that if he happens to meet you,
I wish you to give him some of your time &
attention -

Miss Eloise R. Payne—

Newport

R I—

13

Dec 1811

nd

Dec 26 1811

To the Honorable, the Senate, & house of Representatives of the United States in Congress.

The undersigned members of the Association of Ministers in, and about Boston, beg leave respectfully to state—

That the postmasters, in conformity to an act of this Commonwealth, providing for a due observance of the Lords day, which act ordains, "that no person, or persons whatsoever, shall keep open his or their shop, warehouse, or workshop, nor shall, upon land or water, do any manner of labor, business or work (works of necessity & charity only excepted)" from the first establishment of the post office till within a short period, have kept their offices for the delivery of letters Sunday, as on other days, & their clerks have employed the forenoons of that holy day, in common with the rest of their fellow citizens.

For more than a year past, however, your memorialists with deep regret, have observed & learned, that the post offices, in some places are opened for the distribu-

lection of letters, regularly, on the Sabbath; & are informed that this practice, which is in direct contravention of the forementioned act of this commonwealth, is enjoined in the act passed by your honorable body, on the 25th April 1810. the ninth section of which is in the words following. viz. That every post master shall keep an office, at which one or more persons shall attend, on every day, on which a mail, or bag, or other packet, or parcel of letters shall arrive, by land or water, as well as on other days, at such hours, as the post master general shall direct. And it shall be the duty of the post masters, at all reasonable hours, on every day of the week, to deliver, on demand, any letters or packets &c. &c. X

Your memorialists are informed, that under this clause, the post masters are compelled to keep the post office open on the Lords day, to the evident infringement of the laws, now in force, in this State, against the violation thereof.

Your memorialists cannot, in justice to their own feelings, refrain from observing, that the violation of

a Salutary and long revered institution like the Sabbath,
when sanctioned by the most powerful influence in
the Union, cannot fail of having a tendency to en-
danger that respect for all the laws of religion &
morality, on which the peace & happiness of So-
ciety must ultimately repose.

They do therefore most respectfully & earnestly
petition your honorable body, that the said ninth
section of the act, entitled "an act regulating the
post office establishment" and passed the 25th April
last, may be so amended as to prohibit the deliv-
ery of letters, papers & packets on the said Sabbath.
And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever
pray.

Boston December
26. 1811.

John Bradford
Elijah alet Porter,
Jed. Morse

Thomas Gray
John Pierce
William E Channing
Isaac Smith

Wm. Lowell
Horace Holley.
John Codman

Saml. C. Thacher

Petition & Papers -
Prison

To the Honorable, the Senate, & house of Representatives of the United States in Congress.

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That the postmasters, in conformity to an act of this Commonwealth, providing for a due observance of the Lordsday, which act ordains, "that no person, or persons whatsoever, shall keep open his or their shop, warehouse, or workshop, nor shall, upon land or water, do any manner of labor, business or work (works of necessity & charity only excepted)" from the first establishment of the post office, till within a short period, have kept their offices for delivery of letters shut on Sunday, until sunset, except on extraordinary occasions, & themselves, & their clerks have enjoyed the privileges of that holy day, in common with the rest of their fellow citizens.

For more than a year past, however, your memorialists, with deep regret, have observed & learned, that the post offices in some places are opened for the distribution of letters, regularly, on the Sabbath; & are informed that this practice, which is in direct contravention of the forementioned act of this commonwealth, is enjoined in the act passed by your honorable body, on the 25th April 1810. the ninth section of which is in the words following. viz That every postmaster shall keep an office, at which one, or more persons shall attend, on every day, on which a mail, or bag or other packet, or parcel of letters shall arrive, by land or water, as well as on other days, at such hours, as the postmaster general shall direct. And it shall be the duty of the postmasters, at all reasonable hours, <u>on every day of the week</u>, to deliver on demand, any letters or packet &c. &c

Your memorialists are informed, that under this clause, the post-masters are compelled to keep the post office open on the Lordsday, to the evident infringement of the laws, now in force, in this State, against the violation thereof.

Your memorialists cannot, in justice to their own feelings, refrain from observing, that the violation of a salutary and long revered institution like the Sabbath, when sanctioned by the most powerful influence in the Union, cannot fail of having a tendency to endanger that respect for all the laws of religion & morality, on which the peace & happiness of Society must, ultimately, repose.

They do, therefore, most respectfully & earnestly petition your honorable body, that the said ninth section of the act, entitled "an act regulating the post office establishment" and passed the 25th April last, may be so amended as to prohibit the delivery of letters, papers & packets on the said Sabbath. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Boston December)
26. 1811.)

John Bradford
Eliphalet Porter
Jedh. Morse

Thomas Gray
John Pierce
William E. Channing
Isaac Smith

Cha. Lowell
Horace Holley
John Codman

Saml C. Thacher

Jan.y 2 - 1812

My dear friend -

I [redacted] - I [redacted] to [redacted]. You remember [redacted] to be [redacted]. Did I not [redacted] yes, I should [redacted] — The past year has been to us both peculiarly interesting. It has made some important changes in our domestic circles, & it has left I hope some salutary impressions on ourselves & our friends. I look back on it with much humiliation. I fear that my sufferings have not refined me, as they ought. I am sure that my blessings have not left that

tender sense of divine goodness which I wish ever to maintain.) I thank you for the assurances you have so often given me that I am not forgotten by you in that solemn hour, when the secret & most fervent desires of your heart are poured out before God. My increasing duties require increasing activity, & sometimes they suggest many painful fears & forebodings. Pray for me, that I may be faithful & useful.) May this new year be to you & yours a year of happiness, & peculiarly of religious improvement & Christian exertion. Of late I feel that I have seemed to neglect you. Various circumstances have combined to make me a less frequent visitor - but I renew to you the assurance, that it will be one of my

greatest pleasures to contribute to the happiness of yourself & your family, & hope you will never feel reluctance in calling on me for any service, I shall be able to render— My dear friend, may your health be very precious in the sight of Him, to whom your life is devoted— May all your maternal hopes be realized— May your future life, with all its trials, still a round of tranquil ~~enjoyments~~ enjoyments— & especially may your heart & blessings combine to unite your heart more closely to God, the fountain of all that is good & blessed— —

1812 - Jan

Mrs C Codman -

Newport Jany 28th 82

Dear Catlin

I rec'd your letter of the 8th and had anticipated your request in regard to Miss Dana having written a letter of introduction to Mr Gardner and left it by your Grandfather, which was forwarded from here.

In the subject of placing at loan the sum you are informed you have in hand of your Mother, I have been at a loss to know how to advise, which has delayed my reply — Government Stocks, I have not a favorable opinion of as an object of investment — in case of new loans, which it appears Congress will be impelled to resort to — higher interest may be required to induce subscription to the amount that may be wanted for the year — and of the present restrictions on Commerce continue — as all war be greatly forced — there can be no calculating on the value of the Stock — That those who have little to invest in, had better wait an application to a more permanent fund — plan it with some of the Banks some other way — If the Massachusetts Bank should not be liable to lose its Charter, I should think an

in Bank entitled interest as good as any. or if you
should prefer having it placed on ~~mortgage~~ to an real
estate. There is due me about the sum of one
hundred & fifty dollars on the Note of Pelham for the sum for
mention of the Note of Pelham for the sum for
which I hold a Mortgage, in which your Mothers
name is interested for three hundred Dollar I would receive it
& assign the whole Notes & Mortgage for her
use except that her note

C

Feb 24 - 1812 -

Dear Sir -

Before receiving your last letter, I had found the means of investing advantageously a part of the money belonging to the estate which I had in my hands. Instead of 2000 dollars, I have now only eight hundred on hand. If it will be convenient to you to take this, & to make over to my mother a part of the note which you hold against the Peckhams, it will be very agreeable to me - I do not know how far this arrangement will be practicable or agreeable. I will thank you to give me a line on the subject - I write in haste, & can only add that all are well, & desire affectionate remembrance to you & yours -

Yr affect Nephew

W E Channing

Wm Ellery Channing
February 24 1812

Walter Channing Esqr

Newport

1812 C

Boston Sept^r -

My dear Eliza -

Your letter was just what I expected - I knew that you were incapable of attempting to raise yourself on their ruins. I understand from my cousin that the Miss Smiths are now tremble that their fears arose from rumors which had no foundation. They should have been more cautious in expressing their apprehensions. Were I not disposed to think very well of them, I should be half angry with them for subjecting you to groundless censure. But, my good friend, be not dejected - your calamity is a very common one. Until we are forgotten, we shall not cease to be misrepresented. A more courtly friend than I am would tell you that you must expect to pay the tax of eminence, but I had rather say, that reproach is to be considered as one of the trials by which we are to be perfec-

ted, & that the censoriousness of the world should
make us more anxious to secure to ourselves an
approver in our own breasts, & a friend in Hea-
ven - I hope my letter had no influence
in deciding your choice of your future residence.
I was desirous to prevent this effect -
You say that you shall probably go to New
York. I cannot object, & yet I grieve to hear
it. The thought of your removal to so
great a distance is painful indeed. I should
have rejoiced, could I have promoted your
establishment in this place. But the claims
of Mr Scollay on me are such, that I have
never felt at liberty to suggest the idea.
She is an excellent woman, one of my best friends,
& I would not on any account wound her feel-
ings, or interfere with her success - You know,
my kind friend, the sentiments I have often
expressed in relation to your character & your
happiness. Though I have not written, my
interest in your improvement, usefulness &

welfare is unabated. Do write me often, & inform me of your prospects. Your letters have been among my great pleasures, & I believe you cannot complain that many of them have been unanswered. I write in haste, that I may send this by Wm G- Do remember me affectionately to Anna & believe me

Yr sincere friend

W E C-

You are at liberty to write the Mrs I & use any information I have given you - I need not caution you against ungentle language -

On looking over our church books I do not find the name of your aunt Esther. Do enquire of her into what church she was first admitted -

Sept 1812

Mrs Eloise R Payne -
Newport
R I -

Sept. 11. 1812 Boston

My dear Uncle—

I have received your letter relating to your removal here, & I wish it were in my power to find you such accommodations as you wish— But I have not heard of a family in which you & yours may be received, & I very much doubt whether so large an number can be accommodated except in a professed boarding house. I understand that two or three gentlemen wish to let their houses & furniture. If Mrs C would consent to be a housekeeper here, I imagine you may find a situation in a very pleasant part of the town— But I wish you would improve the leisure which the present state of affairs gives you, & make us a visit. In a very short time you would be able to judge, whether you can find a family or proper lodgings at the separate for comfort— Uncle Henry is with us, & leaves us to morrow for N London. He will take

this letter as far as Providence. We are all well. Elizabeth seems to be industriously preparing the home for the reception of our absent friends. Do give my love to Mr C & the children & to Aunt & all my friends. Ever affect^te Nephew—

W. C. Channing—

W. E. C. 11th Sept. 1

Walter Channing Esqr-

Newport

R I-

C

1812

Boston - Sept. 21 -

Dear Eloise -

I have just heard of an opportunity to Newport - & I send a line which may reach you before you leave that place. You have not informed me what your prospects are in New Y. I presume however that you will find many acquaintances & friends. Will it not be in the power of your friends in that quarter to introduce you to some influential persons in N Y, who may contribute to your success, & whose society will be gratifying to you. Pres thought I have not the merit of originating - it was suggested to me by one who loves you very sincerely, & it struck me favourably. I can imagine no objection to this plan - but I have not thought it best to get you any letters until I have your approbation - I hope you carry with you a stout heart - One of good courage - You are engaged in the best of la-

for, & you carry to it the best of talents. En-
deavour to feel that he who has assigned you
your place in the world is the wisest & kind-
est of beings - & that the faithful discharge
of the duties which he selects for you is the
surest road to perfection, to usefulness, to happ-
iness - Your last letter has made me fear
that your heart is yet too sensitive - & mean
too much alive to the evils & inconveniences of your
state - but I do not intend to be a censor in
this letter - Your friend & my very dear sister,
Susan is now with us. I am glad that the & You
become come to know & love one another - Let
me know your wishes on the subject of this
letter & your prospects -

Yr affect^te friend

W C. Le-

Sept 21. 1812.

18

Mrs Eloise R Payne-

Newport-

R I

+ Next page.

Boston— Decr 24 - 1812 -

My dear Eloise—

The accounts we have lately received from you have given us great pleasure - I rejoice that you have at last found a home, although I regret that you have travelled so far to find it - We hear that kind friends are gathering around you - may they be more useful, they cannot be more sincere, than those you have left - I hope that that tremulous heart now beats more equably than it once did - & that the animation of health has infused a little that pale cheek which I once viewed with concern - I cannot tell you how truly I rejoice in your cheerful prospects - You are now to fulfil, I hope, all which the partiality of friendship has predicted, to awaken the female mind, to improve & exalt the female character, to ~~to~~ ~~encrease~~ ~~the~~ ~~dignity~~ ~~of~~ ~~your~~ ~~sex~~ ~~&~~ ~~to~~ ~~ornament~~ ~~the~~ ~~world~~ ~~by~~ ~~the~~ ~~example~~ ~~of~~ ~~female~~ ~~excellence~~ a spirit & a type of purity & elevation in requiring from many of your sex who by birth & fortune are to fill the first ranks of society. I flesh that kind providence which has guided & sustained you through many afflictive scenes, which I trust has purified you by suffering, & which is now giving you opportunities of usefulness superadded to your powers & benevolent desires - I want to repeat many good maxims

to you, which my solicitude has expanded, perhaps to weariness, in my former letter - but I wish cease to distrust you - I hope, I trust, that you have a mentor within you, which prefers nobler views, kindler more generous aspirations, & offers better rules of life, than you can derive - I wish only say, that I expect from you more than ordinary effects, more than ordinary usefulness - I have received your letter from me His Early Worship by
assuring my adoree in the subject of a profession of religion - I have read this letter with very great satisfaction - One of the earnest wishes of my heart is accomplished - My friend, for whom I have so often feared, has consecrated herself to God, & is seeking immortality. I adoree you immediately to connect yourself by profession as well as by affection with the body of believers, to bear your testimony to the excellence of your savior & to the truth of his religion - The rite of the supper, as Jesus has left it, is the as simple as it is affecting - If has it is only a memorial, a method of impressing the understanding & the heart. It is designed to confess our faith, hope, love, obedience - & the nature of the ordinance decides the qualifications for approaching it - Do you wish to cherish the sentiments which this institution is suited & designed to awaken? Have you that embrace of the truth & acceptance of Christianity, which such

would lead to a serious & beneficial use of these means of improvement - You are authorized to approach. For you the table is spread - ~~for~~ Let no apprehension of unworthiness deter you - What is there in the views of an affectionate friend suffry for us to repel & alarm us. Could Jesus Christ have placed himself before us in a character more suited to give hope & peace to a mind conscious of its errors & sins - I would not, however, advise you to unite yourself with any Christian church, of ~~the~~ you are required to subscribe to articles, of the ~~truth~~ of which you are not fully persuaded, a principle which human guides enforce as necessary to communion with the faithful. I confess, I have some fears for you on this point. You are living, as I think, in a region of many errors, & your creed, as you formerly gave it to me, is not in my estimation altogether conformed to the simplicity & purity of the Gospel - your ears are familiarized to sentiments which I cannot hear without shuddering, & which appear to me more detestable to the Universal Father than any error ~~he does not~~ born in the darkest of Popery - From these your moral feelings have preserved you - but if you give up the independence & sincerity of your mind to affection & denunciation, you know not where you may be carried - Do not think me unchantable, because I speak so freely of the doctrines of Calvinism - I truly love & honour many by whom these doctrines are embraced & cannot easily be a bigot, whilst memory retains what I have recorded on one of her fairest

tablets, & what I delight to recollect, that I drew most of a Fenelon, Massillon, Pascal &c &c, Calvinism of the New England pilgrims, ~~Scott Hervey~~, Brooker &c &c, Arminianism of Barrow, Tillotson, Butler &c &c, & Unitarianism of Newton, Watts, Locke, & Clarke, Price, Lardner &c &c — So much for theology — We are all well & remember you & yours fervently affectionately — Do express my affectionate regard to your Aunt Esther, your sisters, & brothers — Your pupil Elizabeth Ellery is here, & we take pleasure in her instructing her — If your new friend Mrs Boyd remember, I would ask you to present to her my respects — Do write me, & when by strict economy you shall become rich enough to pay the postage of my letters, I hope I shall be able to write you more frequently — ~~& yet~~ I doubt whether you yet have repaired the effects of past prodigality —

Yr sincere friend &c &c —

Dec 24. 1812.

19

Miss Eliza R Payne
Newyork
N Y

Early dividends
Dec 24 1812
Free

Works, P. 167

Jan 11. 1813 C

Dear Sir - I have long known you by your writings, & have long intended to ~~address~~ write you - but a variety of occupations have prevented. I ~~have not~~ wished to express my gratitude for the service which you have rendered to the cause of truth & free enquiry - But variety of occupations have prevented - I am now ~~however~~ led to write you in consequence of a ~~plan~~ which ~~is~~ the writer of many in this quarter to establish a work, in which ~~to~~ your aid will be very important. It has long been the impression of many friends of ~~free~~ Scriptural truth, that we need a periodical publication, which shall be adapted to the great mass of Xns, & the object of which shall be to ~~awaken a zeal~~ increase their zeal & zeal-ousness, & to direct their attention to the Scriptures, to furnish them with that degree of ~~critical~~ Biblical criticism

which they can receive & apply, to illustrate obscure & perverted passages, & through last not least, to teach them their rights as Men, to ~~give them~~ awaken a jealous attachment to the liberty, to shew them the grounds of Congregationalism, & to guard them against every enemy who would bring ~~the~~ Our minds of the unbelievers of this world them into bondage - ~~We have~~ After been increased, since the appearance of a pub Commencing about such a work, the great on the Sanhedrim in subst of scripture, fully dev General enquiry was, to whom we shd closely the view of the importance of it, & we hence unanimously concurred in the op- sition, that you ~~will do~~ are peculiarly fitted for the office. ~~of ed~~ I now write to obtain your views & feelings on this very entire subject - You must of course re- side in this town, if you undertake the work - but this we hope will not be un- pleasant, as it will give you nearer ac- ess to the means of knowledge, & we hope will bring you acquainted with some

warm friend of truth. We have understood from enquiry that 1000 copies of this work will yield better than 600 Dlls net profit - 1500, between 900 & 1000 - 2000 between 1300 & 1400 - We think that the first year we shall obtain 1000 subs - we hope for 2000 in 2 or 3 yrs - The whole net profit we shall devote to edcation - You may expect from several gentlemen in this town & vicinity - ~~Nor~~ With the sentiments of these gentlemen you are well acquainted - They are precisely ~~acquainted~~ agreed in the sentiments on Xtn subjection, nor do they wish the work to be devoted to any particular ~~system~~ views of that subject - They wd rather inculcate among Xtns a spirit of forbearance on this & other subjects, & lead them to consider what good men of different sentiments have urged - etc to the exclusion of Calvinism, they are opposed to them without thinking unkindly towards the professors of that system - They are opposed to it peculiarly as prostituting the independence of the mind, as teaching men that they are not

usually incapable of discerning religious truth
as it thus generates a superstitious dismal
dependance on those who profess to have
been brought out of darkness into light,
& on it infuses into its professors a
bitter, uncandid, censorious spirit - I do
not at present think of any other in-
formation which you will need to direct
judgment - You will do us the justice
to believe, that in this business we are not
actuated by the spirit of partizans - We
have long given proof our aversion to dis-
putes, by intensely patiently to the greatest
misrepresentation of our character & sentiments
We have no desire to defend any heresies
of our own - We wish only to save our fellow men
from the unwearied & systematic efforts who
are making to impose on them a human creed,
to fetter them with unwarrantable fetters toward the
brethren who [illegible] from the leading
of assert the liberty of thinking for themselves -
We only wish to direct men's minds to the word
of God & to awaken in them a greater zeal, & reverence

April 1813.

The Christian Disciple, a new periodical work, has been originated by a few ministers in this town & vicinity for the promotion of piety, charity, & religious knowledge among common Christians. These gentlemen have been so impressed with the importance of the work, & have confided so much in the patronage of the Christian public, that they have become responsible for the expences of the publication during the two first years. As however a degree of uncertainty always attends a work of this kind, they feel themselves bound to call on ~~the~~ their friends, & on the friends of serious & rational piety to share with them the responsibility. For this purpose, they respectfully request gentlemen, whose circumstances will permit, to subscribe for a larger number of copies than they will for themselves, it being understood, that they will not required to take these copies, unless the public patronage shall prove inadequate to the support of the work. I have taken the liberty of send-

ing a subscription paper, for the purpose of obtaining this pledge from the liberal. Perhaps the paper will be handed to some, who have already agreed to take a single copy; but it is hoped that, after this explanation, they will become responsible for a greater number, & in this way share the hazard of the publication with the gentlemen who have planned it, & who expect from it no compensation, except the satisfaction of contributing to the improvement of their fellow Christians.

With respect —

April. 1813 —

Wm E Channing —

1813
Apr. C

The Christian Disciple has been established ~~in this town~~ by a few ministers in this town & vicinity for the purpose of promoting seriousness, charity, & religious knowledge among common christians. These gentlemen have taken on themselves the expenses of the work for the two first years, & they feel a strong hope, that the subscriptions will be sufficiently numerous for its support. But, as a degree of uncertainty always attends works of the kind, they feel it their duty to solicit their friends & the friends of christian truth & piety to share with them the risk of publication, & to become responsible for a number of copies. If a sufficient number of subscribers shall be obtained to defray the expenses of publishing & editing the work, no person will be required to take a greater number of copies than he wishes for himself. If not, an opportunity will be given to the patrons of the christian disciple, to distribute among the poor an useful publication. I have taken the liberty of sending a subscription paper for the purpose expressed in this communication.

With great respect
Wm E Channing

Boston Apr. 1813

Rubbers have come - Please
leave if you should call
by Pollard with
for the
a few
Field of
It at
with
pleasure. My
pleasure were
the contrary

Hon. Jos. Cranch, Pres. & the Ar-
tillery, & number of Guns -

40703

the self-preserving first laws of nature—" I look round the globe & see millions marching towards the common mouth—I see not a few carry fierce, cruel parts of danger—& carry away life & body to our last flood like water—Does there not the love of life seem not to resemble a principle as is sometimes imagined—I do not not think that this principle is exceedingly checked by our modes of education by the anxiety which children see expressed for the rich, & the gloom with which they see associated with death—In some nations, where not destroyed for courage, such as the Indians, death is met with great calmness—A man may sometimes preserve

Boston - April - 19 - 1813 -

Dear Eliza -

My cousin Col Gibbs, leaves us this afternoon for N Y, & I cannot suffer so good an opportunity to escape me although I have very little time for writing - I send you by him a little catechism prepared by Mrs Thacher & myself for the youngest children in our society who are prepared to receive instruction - I wish you would read it with care, & tell me with perfect freedom what are its deficiencies, in what respects we have failed to present truth with simplicity or how it can be improved - I wish the judgment of those who have had the care of children, & who know by experience the way in which the young mind is to be approached — I was gratified by your last letter, although I regretted that you have so many obstacles to encounter - But do not despond - Difficulty is designed to rouse not to subdue the mind - Unwearied, patient assiduity can alone ensure your usefulness & reputation - I approve the plan you formed in teaching Alison, & in awakening the sensibility of your scholars to the Sublime & Beautiful - but you must suffer me to caution you against giving too much attention to objects so congenial with your taste &

habits - ~~I thank~~ You must remember ~~that~~ you are not a Professor of Rhetoric, but have much humbler labors to perform - I give you this caution, because I fear ~~that~~ you are not sufficiently laborious in instructing your pupils into the elementary studies - I mentioned to you in my last letter, ~~that~~ my cousin Elizabeth ~~did not~~ was not as good a grammarian as I expected. I must now add another deficiency - She brought me the other day a sum in ~~fractions~~ compound subtraction which was not very difficult, & I discovered from a few questions, that she knew little or nothing of the rule - I fear that you are not sufficiently sensible how necessary it is to repeat with frequency & to place in a variety of lights, the ideas which we wish to impress on children - Tho I am aware, ~~that~~ grammar & arithmetic are not inviting studies, but they are very important, & your invention should be employed in giving attraction to what is commonly dry & uninteresting. I am persuaded that you can if you please. throw some flowers even in their rough paths - A lady told me not long ago, that a grammar lesson ~~often~~ was often an occasion of merriment & hearty laughter among her children - Dear Eliza, do not look sober - do not say, when will my friend cease to find fault. There are few

whom I should trouble with the free remarks which I send to you - & the kind regard which you have ever expressed towds me, notwithstanding my frequent admonitions has strengthened the friendship which I bear you, & has convinced me that you are worthy of reproof - I feel a strong interest in your success as a teacher, & I am pained by anything which seems to prove that you are not as thorough as you ought to be - Be not so anxious to teach much, as to teach well - Let your mind be often active in discovering the better methods of teaching than have yet been adopted - Take care of your health, but when that object is secured, let your profession have the principal part of your thoughts & time - Do remember me to your esteemed family - Yr affect - friend

J. O. [illegible]

22.

April 19. 1813.

Mrs Elsie R Payne

New York

Newport Sept. 21st. 1813 C

Rev.d & Dear Sir,

I now send you by Miss E. L. Edlery $ 2 ~~dollr~~ for a second set of the Christian Disciple for both I mean to be considered the subscriber. The numbers that have been published be pleased to send me by Miss M. Vernon, when she returns, if no private opportunity should sooner offer. These will be considered as part of the second set for the first year. The four first numbers of the first set I have already received, and shall expect to receive by the same person who brings those for the second, the numbers subsequent which may then have been printed. Be pleased also to send me two of the subscription Papers. That I had received has been worn out by improper usage, without obtaining a single subscriber, and I expect the numbers I have lent will return in a tattered condition. —

We have not heard a word about the return of your mother, and Susan. The last account I had about them was that they were at Worcester, and that Susan's child was getting better slowly. I hope it has entirely recovered.

We are all well, and if you and your connections are well it is well. Remember me to them, and accept of the best wishes for your health and prosperity from

Ys affect.y

Wm. E. Edlery

P.S. The weather is fine and we are in a state of peace. Mount your horse and make us another visit. It will do you and us good. —
Notwithstanding I have drilled about and about finding the numbers, I have sent Miss M. Vernon, and wish you to find them by her. —

M C

The Revd

William E. Channing

Boston

Massachusetts

Sept. 1813

Wm E Channing

an autograph

C

Addressed to "The Revd. William E. Chahning,Boston,Massachusetts"

Newport Sept. 21st. 1813.

Revd. &Dear Sir,

I now send you by Miss E.D. Ellery $2 for a second set of the Christian Disciple: for both I mean to be considered the subscriber, all the numbers that have been published be pleasad to send me by Miss K.Vernon,when she returns, if no private opportunity should sooner offer. ~~The four first numbers of the first set I have already received~~ These will be considered as part of the second sets for the first year. The four first numbers of the first set I have already received, and I shall expect to receive by the same person who brings those for the second, the numbers subsequent which may then have been printed. Be prepared also tomsend me two of the subscription Papers.That I had received has been worn out by improper usage, without obtaining a single subscriber, and I expect the numbers I have lent to return in a battered condition .-

We have not heard a word about the return of your mother, and Susan. The last account I had about them was that they were at Worcester, and that Susan's child was getting better slowly. I hope it has entirely recovered.

We are all well and if you and your connections are well it is well.- Remember me to them and accept of the best wishes for your health and prosperity from

Yrs. affecty.

Wm.Ellery

P.S.The weather is fine and we are in a state of peace. Mount your horse and make us another visit. It will do yuu and us good. Notwithstanding I have written about and about sending the numbers, I have seen Miss Vernon, and wish you to send them by her.

Saturday eveg - 21st May 1814 - Tolland -

My dear Eloïse -

I wrote you a few lines from Tolland, where we expect to spend Sunday, the day of rest so grateful to the weary traveller. Our journey has been very delightful, & need not talk to you of the fresh verdure of the fields, of the bloosoms & streams &c - It will give you greater pleasure to know that you contributed to our enjoyment. The little book, which you sent by mother to Susan, interested us almost too deeply the first day of our journey - Not a little self denial was required to suppress the tear which moistened the eye at the recital of the vertues & sufferings of Ludovico & his mother. Seldom have I been more disposed to play the woman. The letter of your excellent friend I consigned with this little book & with

the recollection of my happy interviews
with you to diffuse through my heart
a tenderness to which it is not safe
often to yield. Your letter, my dear E,
has made me truly happy, for it ~~re-~~
~~peats~~ discovers a mind worthy of you. I trust,
that there is reserved for you both,
the purest felicity granted to
mortals on earth. It is my earnest
prayer to god, that he will restore
to you this excellent young man, &
I shall esteem it no small privilege
to enjoy his friendship — But to come
to the principal objects of my letter.
Did I tell you to send Mr Buchanan's
sermons to ~~Mr~~ Dr Farrar, with this mes-
sage, that they are presented to ~~Colum~~
the College under his care by the pub-
lisher. Do not forget this — I recollect
with gratitude the attentions of your friend
Mr Verplanck. I forget to say to him, that

I wish the life of the hero of R Island Gen Greene to be attempted by an able hand. Greene had no superior as a soldier & I have understood that his character as a man was interesting. He must have possessed great native force of character for he owed his eminence to himself & not to any external aids or circumstances - Another thing I forgot to say to you. Will you tell your friend, Mr & Mrs Watson, whom I neglected but to whose [illegible] dress I was not insensible, that I would [illegible] e called on them the day of [illegible] having N Y had I not been excessively [illegible] tigued. Perhaps you ought to charge your [illegible] with some of my negligences. My mother also wishes here apology to be made in your best style to Mrs Watson, as fatigue prevented her from calling. She bids me say, that she was made very happy by her visit to you - You see how many fine things I have learned to say - Give our love to all your family, not forgetting Aunt Esther - ~~Say to Sarah Gibbs that the [illegible] of Saints she wishes may be purchased at the second [illegible]~~. I am writing with a poor tavern quill, & poor ink & paper - Will you excuse all — W C C-

Sailed May 28 Ct. 12½

Miss Eloise R Payne.
Broadway,
New York
N Y

May 21. 1814
24

† Sent per Boston - May 9 - 1815

My Dear Eloise -

I have been intending to write you, since I heard of your sickness - but this intention has been counteracted by a variety of causes, until now I have a new motive which compels me to write - We have received within a few days an account of the death of my sister Anna in England. The account was not definitely from Mr Allston or any of our friends, but it was so precise & circumstantial as to leave no doubt of the melancholy event - We expected letters by the first arrival giving us some particulars of the last days of this very dear friend - But we have received none by the Packet which arrived at N Y & we fear that Mr Allston wrote by ~~the~~ another Packet which we think was captured. My mother seems inclined to hope something from this want of confirmation of the intelligence. But I dare not encourage in her or myself any favourable expectation. It has occurred to us that you may have received from England some letters

which may make some mention of Ann or her husband, & you will very much oblige us, if you will immediately send us any extract which may relate to them - + You can easily conceive, my friend, His Sister Ann's death-
the feelings which this intelligence has awakened. Ann was no common friend. Her heart, which was perhaps the most constant in its affections that I have ever known, clung to her family with peculiar tenderness - The circumstances of her early life, particularly her attachment to Mr H, seperated her from the world, & seemed to estrange her from all relish for its ordinary pleasures; & her whole life was given to her family. In her domestick relations, I have hardly known one so faithful, & the impression she has left on our hearts is one of the last which time will obliterate -
One of her last acts before leaveng this country
was to unite herself to our church, an act which nothing but the diffidence & humility of her character led her so long to defer - Since leaveng us, we have not been able to observe her course, but the singular consistency & uniformity of her character is a pledge that she was found walking humbly in the path of her duty,

& that her end was peace - I find, that events of this nature disturb my mind much less than formerly. My increasing conviction of the perfect goodness of God, of his paternal character, of his minute & tender care, & of the riches of his mercy in Jesus Christ (the last truths in religion which men truly believe & feel) enables me more cheerfully to resign all things to his disposal. The thought that God has made our souls immortal, with capacities of angelic purity & glory, & for the very end that we should ascend to heaven, to the society of angels, to moral perfection, to the most intimate union with God & his son, this thought when felt by us, gives a new as pect to nature, to society, to our present relations & connections. I found myself of late inclined to regard the future state of the blessed in a more affecting & I think attractive light than formerly, as a state of mutual dependence, of useful services, of the tenderest affections. Our friends, in leaving the body, do not put off humanity; they do not lose their affections for those they left behind; & I would ask, do they

love their concern, their pity — Where those sympathies, which are so virtuous in our friends on earth, which Jesus felt, unworthy of heaven. An unfeeling heaven, a heaven where the good forget their friends, or are forbidden to feel deeply for them, is not the most interesting. Have you never felt, on listening to some description of heaven, that it wanted sensibility. Can we bear that this bond of union between us, & lovers on earth, & the good in heaven should be dissolved — But I must stop — my sincere regard to all yr family — Yrs truly — W E Channing

Miss Eliza R Payne.
Broadway
New York

1815

Decr 11. /15. Boston

My dear Lucy.

I have written one letter & have received no answer so I am not your debtor, & perhaps had I been left to myself you would not have heard from me very soon. But I have one quality of wisdom, I am easily persuaded, & a most persuasive voice is still sounding in mine ear, "do write Lucy". I need not tell you who the kind advocate is. She loves you very much & is too much occupied to write you herself. She has had a great demand made upon her strength by the sickness of her mother. But affection seems to have given her new powers, & notwithstanding anxious nights & watchful days, she is as well if not better than when we returned from our journey. What you have heard is much better. I feared exceedingly, that her hour was come - but providence is restoring her to us, & you know how great a blessing is restored in her to her family. Mrs Smith & myself are to be at the parsonage this winter". Pride will have a fall". You see that after all my efforts to rise above my condition, I must come down to humble Berry St. I bear my humiliation with all imaginable fortitude, & my partner seems to make the fall as easy to herself as possible - I have taken my study in the third story, to which height I have been obliged to transport my wood to keep me comfortable. Notwithstanding these trials, I am very well, & very happy. I hope I shall hear as good an account of you - Say love to your husband. Your children must be brought up to love us - Yr affect brother W E C-

Not a line have I had from Eloise, although she promised to write -

Mrs William W Russell.

New York -

Dr Channing

Boston

1-a-48

Decr 11. /15. Boston.

My dear Lucy,

I have written one letter & have received no answer, so I am not your debtor, & perhaps had I been left to myself you would not have heard from me very soon. But I have one quality of wisdom, I am easily persuaded, & a most persuasive voice is still sounding in my ear, "do write Lucy." I need not tell you who the kind advocate is. She loves you very much & is too much occupied to write you herself. She has had a great demand made upon her strength by the sickness of her mother. But affection seems to have given her new powers, & notwithstanding anxious nights & watchful days, she is as well if not better than when we returned from our journey. Aunt G. you have heard is much better. I feared exceedingly that her hour was come - but providence is restoring her to us, & you know how great a blessing is restored in her to her family — Ruth & myself are to live at the parsonage this winter. "Pride will have a fall." You see that after all my efforts to rise above my condition, I must come down to humble Berry St. I bear my humiliation with all imaginable fortitude, & my partner seems to make the fall as easy to herself as possible. I have taken my study in the third story, to which height I have been obliged to transport my wood to keep me comfortable. Notwithstanding these trials, I am very well, & very happy. I hope I shall hear as good an account of you. My love to your husband. Your children must be brought up to love us.

Yr affect^{te} brother

W E C

Not a line have I had from Eloise, although she promised to write

Letter to Mrs. William W. Russell. New York

My dear Sir.

As yet I have only thought on the subject. I find it more difficult than I imagined. I will send you my views as soon as they are prepared—

Yrs - with respect

W C Channing.

21 - Oct^r - 1816 -

Waltham Nov. 4. 1816

My dear Sm

Mrs Gore, on her Return home, found some Grapes not quite spoiled — She also procured a few from a Friend in the smaller Box, which may be more sound —

We wish there were more, and that they were in a better State, and Locality, but above all we earnestly desire they may prove of some Comfort to Mrs Channing.

Such as they are, we pray your
acceptance of them, with the best
Compliments of Mrs Lee and of

your faithful & obedient Servant

C. Lee

The revd

Doctor Channing

Mount Vernon.

G. Gore.

Aug 19

Dear Sir-

It is with great pleasure that I communicate to you your election to the office of Deacon in the church in Federal Street, & that I exhibit to you the earnest & unanimous wishes of the ~~Society~~ members that you will accept it. I thank God for this event, & whilst I regard it as a pledge of good to the church, I am also happy in believing that it will form a more intimate connection between you & myself.

Yr sincere friend

Wm C Channing.

Novr 6. 1817-

Revd. Wm E. Channing

BOSTON, 21st APRIL, 1818.

SIR,

The improvement of the means of education for the poor, and the practicability of plans for preserving them from destitution and crime, having lately excited much attention in this town, in which, with all our advantages of schools, private and public, inquiry has rendered it probable that one sixth or one seventh of the youth between four and fourteen years, are utterly ignorant of the plainest reading and writing; while every man's experience must convince him, that, of the adults, an alarming proportion are liable from their habits and employments, to be chargeable as tenants of the alms-house or gaol. A meeting of gentlemen to devise a scheme of relief, is thought necessary, at the Court-Room in the Old Court-House, Court-street, on Thursday afternoon, the 23, inst. at *four* o'clock; to which, as a man of benevolence and prudence, you are invited.

Boston, 21st April, 1818.

SIR,

The improvement of the means of education for the poor, and the practicability of plans for preserving them from destitution and crime, having lately excited much attention in this town, in which, with all our advantages of schools, private and public, inquiry has rendered it probable that one sixth or one seventh of the youth between four and fourteen years, are utterly ignorant of the plainest reading and writing; while every man's experience must convince him, that, of the adults, an alarming proportion are liable from their habits and employments, to be charges-able as tenants of the alms-house or gaol. A meeting of gentlemen to devise a scheme of relief, is thought necessary, at the Court-Room in the Old Court-House, Court-street, on Thursday afternoon, the 23d inst. at four o'clock; to which, as a man of benevolence and prudence, you are invited.

Yes not made us
if involuntary affect

Our affects all centre in ourselves - We go into the world where there, have entered

We are perfectly contented with the society of that world, when friends are taken in dreadfully affecting circumstances &c - 2

We need to think of heaven, & one of the most encouraging traits in that of of an social state - where the good are made perfect - The hope of going such a holy country &

Respectfully,

James Lovering

Nov. 9, 1878.

Sir,

I will thank you to furnish me a list of the Fellows of Harvard University for the Register. The other Officers of the Corporation & Overseers, if convenient. If convenient, have in their Catalogue for October last. Please to notice the alterations since last year, in the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, and in the Massa. Historical Society. The Librarian will call to-morrow.

Yours

James Lovering

We have wants
it cannot satisfy -
by -

C

A death scene almost drives us
to fortitude - ~~We~~
We cannot enjoy a friend -
here - If we are to meet, it
is beyond the grave -
How much of a soul a friend
takes with them -
We half deem them -
We more easily conceive of fabrick
than they, take and handle
affection - in youth - in the
bloom of virtue &c - We feel
that they cannot have perished
affection cannot stop at the
tomb - Immortal as it is, it
grows immediately to its
object -

We would ought never to be
viewed with any thing like
aversion - It demands grat-
itude - but when the tender ties
& bonds of life break around, we
feel that the world is not a

Ever Yours Affectionately
Eliza

Cambridge 13th nov 1848

Dear Sir,

The Corporation of the Coll. are to meet at Cambridge on tuesday next the 19th at ten o'c. A.M.

Truly
J. T. Kirkland

Rev. W. Channing

The remembrance of such friends is
like the beauty of the scene on
which we have been -
It is as if a storm had passed
over us, & left no thing which had
adorned the scene -

Affliction is aggravated where one seen to us as
brothers - one on whom we leaned -

It is aggravated by circumstance -

Every like has some severe pain -

In such events the wind acts through &
through - The arrow pierces it through -
its whole nature is suffering -

Never you become known for the heritage
is gone - The table spread with plenty
reminds the friend who surrounded it -
We eat & leave with known, & the
fellowship/table is gone - The heart with
which we bowed to ours is not here -

At death scenes sometimes things that would
in morning for the eye which looked upon
it with us is gone - The words - that
silence her

An beloved friend does not confine it to
fold one heart of the world - but benefitted in
the whole - becomes connected with
all our feelings -
They men with a whole universe
We feel the life that our whole
being -
Have we been accustomed to pray with
the - We feel as solitude in devotion -
We want it in our prayers - in our
walk -

Dedham Nov.r 14. 1818

Dear Sir,

I have called twice lately for the pleasure of seeing you and having some conversation, and more particularly to obtain a copy of the result of the Council at Dedham, which I understand was left in your hands. I was so unfortunate as not to see you. Will you have the goodness to have me furnished with a copy, or loan to Mr Bullard, the bearer, the original, which shall be returned on Monday, or disposed of otherwise as you shall direct. I am anxious to be possessed of it today or this morning.

In haste, I am, with great respect,

your very obedient Ser.t

Samuel Hoar

Rev. Mr Channing

We expect suitable sentiments
create devotional feelings
from our soul

Wife - mistress -
Hopes - anxiety -
surrounded by fond affections -
Huff at friends -
Young - enamoured -
Bound by so many ties -
Sympathizing -
Improved - improving -

Boston - Feb 22 - 1819 -

Dear Sir -

Judge Dawes communicated to me your memorial relating to privateering. We agreed in the belief, that no good would result, but some evil might, from presenting it to our legislature. I will talk to you fully on the point when we meet - & will only say now, that such is the relation of this commonwealth to the general government, that our best friends in the legislature might doubt the expediency of such an application. to congress. as you propose, & might seem by declining to act with us to favour privateering. May I suggest another mode of reaching our end - May not a memorial to congress on the subject be circulated through the whole country, so that at the next session, the voice of the friends of peace & humanity may be heard from every state, entreating the interposition of government adoption of measures which may hasten

the abolition of this abominable custom through
the Xn world. why may not peace-societies
be used for spreading this memorial, as well
as the quakers, religious associations &c
I read with pleasure Governour Gilman's letter,
& think the publication of it may do good, &
he would have no objection to it. —
Will you send immediately the report of the
Peace society for the Xn Disciple. —
In answer to my enquiries as to your pres-
ent situation, you speak of it as comfortable.
I beg you never to suffer through a fear
of troubling your friends. We consider your
life as devoted to the best interests of the
men, & we wish to prolong it & make
it happy. I do not wish to trouble you
by offers of aid, I will only say, that if
a sum equal to your rent will relieve
you from any inconvenience, you have
friends, who will cheerfully advance it.
I repeat that I cannot see you more fre-
quently. Whenever you come to town, do visit
me. Ys affecte friend W. E. Channing

P.S. I see in the Xn Observer ~~that~~ David Bogue, who is at the head of a theological institution among the dessenters in England has recommended peace-societies - Perhaps some communications from you might conform him in his exertions for peace ~~&c~~ —

The Seminole business has been dishered of by Congress; & I have no wish that our Society should enter the lists with government - But may not the subject be treated usefully in this way. Let us allow, for the sake of the argument, that the majority are right in construing the laws of war. Let us then state distinctly & without any exaggeration the acts of Jackson which they say are justified by these laws - May we not then bring home to men's minds the question, whether the time has not come for repealing such horrible laws? If war demands such regulations or outrages to accomplish its ends, can war too soon be abolished? We may say, that Congress have authorized all future commanders to exercise the same dreadful discretion in War as Jackson - If so, is it not time to exert ourselves to prevent the recur-

rence of this [illegible] in former state of things - It seems to me, you may turn to good account the decision in Congress, on the [illegible] combating it at the same time with this occasion to be made use of - The recital of the transactions of this [illegible] war", & comments upon it, may furnish an matter for a number - & I believe this Journal have not these facts before them in a series -

I have a parishioner, Mr John Lyon, going to England, who will take charge of a letter to Mr Bogue, or any other which you may wish to send, & will make any enquiries, or execute any business relating to peace - He will leave this town on monday next probably, & whatever you send should reach me on Saturday -

1814 -
Parishioner
Returning to England
Letter to Bogue

1819 C

My Dear Sir -

I enclose to you 100 hundred dollars. - I should have done it before, but wanted an opportunity on which I could rely - It is from four friends, who are happy to be able to add to your comfort - I have read the "friend of peace" with pleasure - & rejoice in the good prospects of the Society - I hope your pamphlets will reach Engd soon - Mr Grew could not take the whole with him to New York where he embarks - but I have committed them to another gentleman -

Very affect y
Sr & Co -

March 5 -

Mr Channing.

1819 -

New York 9 May 1819

My dear Sir,

I heard, with great pleasure, last evening from Mr Ely that the arrangements of the Steamboat had been concluded upon under circumstances in every respect agreeable & auspicious. I cannot but think this a great point gained in the advancement of sober & rational christianity -

I regret to see by letters & papers here, & particularly in relation to the immediate arrangements in contemplation when I had fixed the pleasure to see You, nothing more has occurred nor indeed can be effected - We can have the Medical Hall for the services of next Sunday, & the Pearson will see that it is in order - It would be very desirable to see You as early as Friday that definite arrangements may be made for the Sabbath. There are so many of the Eastern Clergy now in

the part of the Country. Should I be happy to be able to render a service not only in both parts of the day, but in the evg. Indeed this last is the more important in one respect — it would probably be best attended — As your strength may not be adequate to be much exertion perhaps you will find it convenient to make an arrangement with some gentleman for his services. Whatever the persons may be it will be better, if quite necessary, to give notice of them in the newspapers. We shall rejoice to see you early in the week when all these matters may be conveniently talked over.

All your friends here are well. Miss Foster promised to drive to go to Church with us today but the heavy rain will prevent it. Miss Pages, Mrs Rees, is gradually getting better, and we at present I shall hope to be

a line in reply — Believe me Dear Sir

Very respectfully & affectly

Yours Truly

W Wadsworth

Rev. William E. Channing

12¢

Philadelphia.

NEW-YORK
MAY
5

Dear Sir

[illegible] Lecture [illegible] Tuesday [illegible] evening [illegible] Peale Museum [illegible] at the Assembly Room, which was called by public advertisement, [illegible] attended. This [illegible] to the extreme inclemency of the weather, which every body knows to be becoming [illegible] on such an occasion. A great deal of interest [illegible] upon the [illegible] We have no doubt that a [illegible] of the dimensions would be filled with [illegible] after a little [illegible] it would be filled with [illegible] after a short [illegible] But the first [illegible] difficult. Most of those who have given the strongest encouragements are [illegible] from fear of public opinion. If [illegible] are deterred from fear of public opinion, if [illegible]

by [illegible] the sentiments of their family connections & particular associates, from taking any decisive step. Still however we are confident that many persons would subscribe for the erection of a church who could not be induced to attend any meeting for that purpose. —

Under all the circumstances of the meeting at the Academy last evening it was not deemed advisable then to open a subscription for the purpose of building a church, but we chose a Committee that should be a temporary release of trouble. The time must be when such a suitable release may be found. The object must again rest with the Committee to consult as to fashion proceedings. We were not however prohibited thus to [illegible] immediately opening a subscription for the building of our church. We should do so publicly as certain patrons = tively that nothing a substantial sum could not at present be obtained.

After the whole We do not feel discouraged — the
courage & zeal of individuals give indeed hope that the
but the public feeling is better than the effects — With
boldness, perseverance, & the blessing of Heaven, We shall succeed.
We must urgently defend ourselves
against enemies We are to defend from the dangers of your vicinity.
& respect the character of Hunter against is high and meaner
important. We might have sent I sent
to Mr Mayhill to obtain a list of your
names which had been sent from Baltimore, &
which I forwarded by the mail of the 21st morning — We expect
each that it will be sent to us as soon as possible — The
first Salem packet will be the conveyance — Mrs Kirk
& Mercein join me to tell it you the Christian Duties
Believe me, with the best wishes to your family,

Your sincere friend

H D Sedgwick

May 21 1819

I shall write again soon —

Rev. William E. Channing

Boston

CHARLESTOWN, May 31st 1819

SIR,

THERE is to be a Meeting of the BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS *of the SOCIETY in SCOTLAND for promoting Christian Knowledge, at the Counting room of Hobart Esq on Monday the 7th day of June at 9 o'clock. AM*

Jedh Morse Secretary.

Rev. Wm E. Channing

If a two [illegible] of love -
that the same
negative af-
fects a the
mind -

Xts fulness, a
fulness of light,
Love -

No extravagant
state of mind -

Nothing dry, cold,
dull -
excellence of
Xty, an ap-
peal to sen-
sibility -

influence on
a heart fitted
to it -

crop -
a wholesome
feelg -
demonstration

of love -
G is love - no motive
dishonourable to him -
or gospel -

Xts love as a reflect -

We shd prepare to
have a heart aw-
akned -

th relign of feelg a mind -
moral feelg -

The heart shd be rend
agst evil [illegible]

Harv-College
12. July 1819

Dear Sir, The Corporation
meet at the Library of
the Medical College
Boston on Thursday
14 15. at ten o'clock to
finish upon Degrees
&c. &c. &c. great regard
I. T. Kirkland

K

Rev'd W. E. Channing
at Mrs Gibbs's
Mt. Vernon

Why
Pray write me why can't you have
a copy of the Degrees -
Yrs truly

We believe righteousness—penitential—glorious—how much said in its favor in N.T.—

But this very righteousness consists in adoring views of G—in exalting him—in praising him—in feeling our poverty & dependence—

Then righteousness consists in deep humility—in feeling of guilt & unworthiness—in acquainting with our sins—in self renunciation—

The virtue, which is most acceptable, is that which gives away from self & ascribes all to G—

Virtue is excellent—but not descent—

Nothing vast not pretty—nothing accept but this—& this casts us down to dust—G sees annihilates us

Letter to Stuart - Octr 20 - 1819 -

Revd & dear Sir.

My late unsettled mode of life has obliged me to defer longer than I intended a careful examination of your "letters" & an acknowledgment of your courtesy in sending the second edition with the accompanying note. I have to thank you very sincerely for calling my attention again to this subject. I have worked to read with a mind open to conviction & with a consciousness that I may have fallen into errour; but I find myself more persuaded (if that is possible) than before, of the truth & overwhelming evidence of the views which I have published. I cannot but regret, that on the second perusal of your letter I was more struck than at first with the unfriendly & ungenerous character of many reflections near the conclusion. Were it not for these, I should say, that your publication has given me great pleasure, & that I may be happy to have called it forth. I have long been of opinion that Trinitarianism never appears so indefensible as when its defence is undertaken by an able man, & I hope that for the sake of what I deem the truth, that your cause, as long as it shall be embraced, may not be committed to advocates of ungenerous power or courtesy -

With sincere regard
Yr friend & brother
Wm E Channing -

believing as I do that it has made as good a defence
of Fort or rather of its just Demn as can be expected,
& being assured that the abler the advocate, the
stronger & more general will be the conviction that
the cause cannot be misrepresented - I wish you
every blessing, & great & increasing usefulness in
your exalted & responsible station - That you may
have us both from selfishness, combate & prejudice,
& that we may learn as an errour whatever
they may be, & give us honesty & boldness to ac-
knowledge & openly renounce them is very sincerely
the
With sincere regard
Yr friend & Servt
W. C. Channing

II P c IV
Miller to Channing
Mss
Channing Papers
Harvard

New York 15 Nov. 1819
Monday Evg 1/2 past 10

My dear Sir,

I write You a line this eve because I fear I should not have time tomorrow, & on a half sheet of paper because there is not a whole one in the House.

We have had our meeting & have organized our Society. Every thing took place in accordance with our publications & wishes except that it is doubtful whether the omission to read the notice on the Sunday before the last may not render it necessary to repeat the formality. We had a meeting of very respectable number & perfect unanimity. The name we have adopted is "the first Congregational Church". This was carried by many members of the Society to that of the "Independent Church" on account of other Independent Churches of the latter name in this City, but many hesitated to adopt it under an impression that You preferred the name of Independent. I hope & believe that You will not be dissatisfied with the name. We chose 9 trustees all of whom were present & assented and none of them were among the original movers of the design. The first shuffle was disclosed by all. The Building Committe was directed to proceed immediately to make contracts, under the understanding that if it should be necessary each individual would add 50 per cent to his subscription. There is a great increase of interest & zeal among us, & it is consequences in no individual more than in Mr Byers, & from the pledges he has given We have reason to hope that money will not be wanting. The trustees are Messrs Byers - Sheldon - Dummer - Townsend - Low - Moran - Shepherd - Armitage & Armstrong.

I have, my dear Sir, neither time nor room for more than a brief statement of facts. My feelings You will readily understand. We have every ground to hope that in the Providence of God We have been - and to ourselves a great blessing, and it is a circumstance not devoid

of interest to me & to some others that this has been done in some measure through the instrumentality. Upon that point however we know that you wish to hear nothing - We humbly hope that the sketch & outline in which we have begun & so far conducted this work is such as will meet the approbation of him whom we wish to serve -

We know that you will hold us in constant remembrance, & if we prosper as we have hereby done, it will probably be expedient to have a stated preacher soon before we shall have time to complete

Rev. William S Plumer
Boston -

the church. We pray, therefore, that you & our other friends in your vicinity would direct your attentions to this object, for there is no other quarter of the country to which we can look for help. It is late, & my eyes will not suffer me to peruse what I have written -

Believe me, dear Sir,
Ever affectly Your friend
H D Sedgwick

Boston - Decr 21 - 1819 -

My Dear Sir -

Mr Norton, I presume, is on the way to New York, & I wrote a line to say to you that I hope it will be in the power of you & our other friends to give him more of your time than most of us would need. He is not only a stranger in New York, but has never travelled, & has none of a traveller's experience. His habits have been those of a student, & it would give him pleasure to know your literary men. I hope he will find accommodation in some of your families, rather than a boarding house. On these points he has expressed no wishes of his own, but I think I know what would make his residence with you most agreeable. - I regret, that your Lares cha- pel has been shut so long - but trust that your Zeal has not grown cold. Please to express to all our friends my best wishes for their & for the good cause which engages them. & assure Mrs S & your sisters of my affectionate regards -

Yr sincere friend -

W Ellery Channing -

BOSTON
NOV
21
MS

Henry D Sedgwick Esqr

New York

N Y -

Revd Wm Ellery Channing to John Eliot Thayer

Dear Sir-

Will you allow me to return the enclosed. I am much indebted to the kindness of Mr Francis, & I beg that the service of the last evening may be regarded as an expression of my interest in his family-

very truly
yr
Wm E Channing-

Friday morng. March 3d-

preying upon the weak - Now
who is the object so loathsome
poverty &
mean - he who shuns mean
chicanery
& exclusively ~~is~~ be about
private intrest - or he
who looks beyond A,
& lets his heart warmed
~~towards~~ with love towards y
& mean - The test of selfishness
is merely a selective one -
~~Now~~ ~~There is much~~
~~Every~~ ~~shortsighted~~ ~~selfishness~~ ~~is~~ ~~selfishness~~
selfishness being as we have shortsighted
selfishness & ~~selfishness~~ ~~selfishness~~
with so many causes of
misery, pain, &c - that

2,000 540 9,000
2,700
4700 4200

[182-] c

Spooner, A.E.

Chelsea. Friday —

My dear Sir,

My father commissions me to say to you, that he should be very glad to secure Mr Reed's aid for the sabbath; for though he is much better to day, than yesterday, he will be quite unfit to preach himself. He thinks that he may more effectually secure Mr Reed's assistance by sending to you, as you kindly offered, than by writing to Mr Reed himself. Our chaise can go to Boston for him, & return him in the evening. My father thanks Mrs Channing for her kindness in sending the jelly; he finds it very pleasant. Very respectfully yours

A.L. Tuckerman.

preping up the mind - Now
who is the truest solicitous
parent &
man - he who thinks more
closely
exclusively on he about
present with - or he
who looks beyond it,
& sees his heart warmed
with love towards
& man - The test of selfx
is surely a solicitous one -
Does Does the
the Poem
Poem bring us to weep
shortsighted
solicitous & [illegible] con-
cerned
with the mere
, pestle, &c - The

2,000 5409,000
2,700
4700-
500 4200

[182-] c

Spooner, A.E.

Chelsea. Friday —

My dear Sir,

My father commissions me to say to you, that he should be very glad to secure Mr Reed's aid for the sabbath; for though he is much better to day, than yesterday, he will be quite unfit to preach himself. He thinks that he may more effectually secure Mr Reed's assistance by sending to you, as you kindly offered, than by writing to Mr Reed himself. Our chaise can go to Boston for him, & return him in the evening. My father thanks Mrs Channing for her kindness; in sending the jelly, he finds it very pleasant. Very respectfully yours

A E Peckham.

DUPLICATE EXPOSURE

whoever every instinct in human heart as it ~~exists~~ proper demands must be the parent of solicitude — & accordingly the multitude of men go thro life, bearing every moment a mountain weight on the soul — as the punishment of the selfishness. The surest way to lighten the spirit, to ~~regain the~~ childlike fulness of joy is to throw off this load, by ~~turning~~ to following the divine impulse which teaches us to look above & beyond ourselves — The deserted ~~Indian~~ Indian cares in-

need but little for what are called life's pleasures - but on this very account he enjoys them ~~from them~~ pleasure is set off by its nature coy - & ~~from~~ him who is not solicitous to multiply them -

Having no burdens he enjoys them more - He has fewer enjoyments but he makes up the deficiency by being ~~of~~ the ~~spent~~ spent of enjoyment -

Time he has enough, but ~~he~~ has a ~~of~~ a benevolent mind despises ~~the~~ ~~of~~ a selfish, not ~~despises~~ ~~despises~~ - caring -

Yours truly
Thomas Jefferson

whoever every interest in pre-
sent as it appears seems
must be the moment of
solicitude — & accordingly
the multitude of men go
their life, being every mo-
ment a mountain weight
on the soul — as the pur-
suit of the self-interest —
the surest way to lighten
the spirit, to release the
chilled pulse of joy is to
throw off this load, by
following that divine im-
pulse which teaches us
to look above & beyond
ourselves — The devout
Indian cares in —

INTENTIONAL DUPLIC

need but little for what are
called life's pleasures - but
on this very account he en-
joys them far
pleasures is off by its na-
ture coy - a fact from her
who is most solicitous to mul-
tiply them -
Having no burdens he enjoys them
more - He has fewer enjoyments
but he makes up the deficiency
by being free from the spent of en-
joyment -
Come he has come, but there
is a benevolent mind despotically
from those of a selfish, not
[illegible] - easily -

[illegible] am sure to [illegible] you, &c.
[illegible] much to wish being [illegible]
[illegible] during the [illegible] [illegible]

ICATE EXPOSURE

Chap. V

1820 [Not dated]

Dear Madam.

I received your letter of April 2d together with the books you kindly sent, Dr Carpenter's reply to Magee, Hatton's sermon, Mr Wellbeloved's sermons, & the tracts of Mr Cappe, for which I return you many thanks. I have looked at Dr Carpenter's work enough to learn its object & to lament that the state of things among you has imposed on him the duty of exposing so much at length the misrepresentations of that gifted railer, Bishop Magee. To a gentleman & a Christian, like Dr C, this office must have been wearisome & disgusting; & might not a single chapter giving a few specimens of the Bishop's unfairness & virulence have sufficed to show that his statements are unworthy confidence? But I am sensible that I am too far from you to judge what is best - & since this work has been thought necessary, I cannot but rejoice that it

has been undertaken, by a man so imbued with the Christian spirit as Dr C. The time has been, when it would have been thought good policy to oppose to the Bishop a controversial bully, able to meet him on his own ground & to fight with his own weapons, & as little scrupulous about the means of humbling an adversary. But I trust the times of this ignorance are past, & that we have learnt the wisdom as well as virtue of defending truth with moderation & benevolence. That party especially which makes its appeal to reason & looks for success to the extension of deliberate & impartial enquiry, has an interest in banishing passion & violence from controversy & giving the example of forbearance & candour. I shall wait with some impatience for Dr. Carpenter's second part, of which no one can question the need & importance. We want this to help us to understand the Bishop, who with all his ability holds order & method in such contempt, & gives his own theory so indistinctly, that some of us have not reached the end of his book, & others understand little more of his object than that he means to put

down the Unitarians, & to be earnest for that shadowy thing called orthodoxy —

I have read with much pleasure Mr Hutton's sermon, & rejoice that such men as he & Mr Yates are rising up to support the good cause. I think that I see a pledge of great usefulness & of the triumph of truth in the excellent spirit of these gentlemen & of the Unitarian writers generally at the present day. They are giving up the irritating invectives & the ~~bad~~ habit of bolting out rash & startling remarks, which were once too common in that school, & which furnish some apology to Bishop Magee. They write more reverently on religious subjects, & if they have less boldness they have more of that calm confidence which is the natural tone of truth.

I have not found time to read Mr Wellbeloved's sermons, but I succeeded the other day in getting the first number of his commentary which I have begun to examine. I have proceeded only through the first chapters, & am quite decisive to get the preliminary matter which he has postponed to the next number, & which will

give us his views of that very difficult part of the sacred volume. The right use of the Old Testament is a subject of immense importance, & very little understood perhaps even among the learned. A future age may find more of Judaism in most of our creeds than we at present suspect, & are we aware of the full import of those passages of Scriptures, "No man knoweth the Father but the Son; the Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He hath revealed him"? & do we not derive our ideas of God & his government too much from the Old Testament which was a primer or spelling book for the infancy of the world, & too little from Him who alone has given views of the supreme being worthy of the manhood of the human mind? Is not the Old Testament to be considered as a record of communications admirably adapted to the training of childhood, & therefore less fitted to a more mature state of the world? If God, for the "hardness of heart" of the Jews, remitted the strictness of a moral law, may we not suppose that he adapted his instructions respecting himself to the gross conceptions & unformed faculties of the

early Hebrews? Were not undue pains taken to assimilate the Jewish & Christian revelations, so that the distinctive characters of each are obscured, the first being unduly ~~depressed~~ raised & the other depressed, in the vain hope of establishing a harmony which is to be found only in the adaptation of each to widely different states of the human mind, & to widely different though intimately connected ends? Mr W has given the Christian interpretation to ~~chapter~~ Genesis vi. 6; "Jehovah repented & was grieved". St. Probable, that the first Fraction, who made the calf at the foot of Sinai, refined at all upon this language, or that any meaning but the obvious one was intended to be conveyed to them? Is not the divine origin of the old dispensation to be defended on this ground, that whilst far superior to the prevalent idolatry, it yet stooped to the low attainments of an unenlightened & partially civilized race, & was precisely adapted to them? On this ground may we not maintain its divinity, without torturing it & making it speak a purer & higher language than it really does, with-

out paying compliments to the sublimity of its style & thoughts which the infidel sees to be extravagant, & without thinking ourselves bound, for the sake of consistency, to let down Christianity that it may walk hand in hand with Judaism.

I make these suggestions, not because I am prepared to abide by them all, or because I have weighed any of them as thoroughly as I should wish, but because Mr W's book has within a few days brought them to my mind with considerable force, & my mind naturally took this direction in writing to you who are so much his friend. Let me here observe, that my letters in general are very hasty written in great haste, with little more reflection than belongs to conversation, & on this account I should prefer that extracts from them might not be published. If these remarks on the Old Testament would be interesting to Mr W, I should be pleased that he should see them, & I should most gratefully receive from him any light on that question, which seems to me not fully treated by any author I have seen, namely, how far a Christian is to make use of the Old Testament in

forming his ideas of religion?

I fear that I may weary you, but I have one or two questions to ask. I lately met with three pamphlets written by William Burns, one called the Spirit of Christianity, the two others were letters on Methodism & were to be continued. I found so much strong & original thinking in these pamphlets that I wish to know who the author is, & whether he has written any thing more — I occasionally see the Monthly Repository, & among the rational, sensible, & matter-of-fact communications which fill that work, I have met now & then a piece from a writer who seems to have made the discovery that Unitarianism & imagination & poetry are not irreconcilable foes. I refer to the Review of Mall Chalmers' astronomical sermons, & the answer to Malthus published perhaps two or three years ago, & to one or two of the articles signed the Nonconformist. There, if I recollect right, had marks of coming from the same hand. The author is one of Wordsworth's school. When I tell you that I incline to the heresy of this writer, & that I wish to see among Unitarians a development of imagination, taste, & poetical enthusi-

season as well as of the rational & critical powers, you will not wonder at my curiosity in wishing to know who the gentleman is to whom I have referred, what are his literary occupations &c— I have before told you how much I think Unitarianism has suffered from unchristian & heart-withering philosophy. I will now add, that it has suffered probably from a too exclusive application of its advocates to Biblical criticism & theological controversy, in other words, from a too partial culture of the mind. I fear, we must look to other schools for the thoughts which thrill us, which touch the most inward springs, & disclose to us the depths of our own souls. Pardon me, dear Madam, for finding so much fault. It is not, I hope, that I am censorious, & such that truth may seem to be, what it is, friendly to our whole nature, & that it develeches not chiefly those powers which seem most akin to imagination, & which have such despotick sway among men—

I can only add, that I read with great pleasure, your preface to the sermons, & rejoice that you are still spared to do good. Mrs Channing joins with me in sentiments of great respect. I hope you have received by Mr Greenwood a letter written in reply to your two before the last—

Boston. June 14. 1820.

Dear Sir.

I return you Parr, begging you to excuse me for having detained it so long. I think you told me that you had not seen Mr Worcester's Unitarian Review, & have therefore enclosed it, requesting your acceptance of it.

With great respect

Wm E Channing.

[318]

Honble Timothy Pickering.

Mass. Sen. A. Armstrong
Secy Administration

Rec^d Mon. E. Channing
June 14. 1820.

Boston - March 9th. 1821-

My dear Sir-

I received to day your letter of March 5. On reading it, I determined immediately to spend three sundays ~~off~~ with you, beginning with the fourth in April, Mr Sparks, if I understand you, having engaged to be with you the three first - But Mr Higginson, whom I met this afternoon, tells me, that Mr Jenks expects to supply you immediately on Mr Sparks leaving N Y, & to take Mr Sparks place at Baltimore whilst that gentleman is preaching for you. No time will on the whole be more convenient to me, than that which I have named, & on some accounts I should prefer it. But if any arrangements have been made with Mr Jenks, on which he relies, I beg not to interfere with them - I read with more sorrow than indignation the extracts you sent from Dr Mc. That the Spirit of a place with which we have associated ideas of sanctity, & from which the Spirit of Christianity should speak audibly & tenderly, should be defiled by such gross & indecent language; that such

foul calumny should be sent forth as the word of God; that the church should be turned into a theatre for the exhibition of such ferocious bigotry, this to me is horrible. I should be inclined to consider the extracts as the ravings of drunkenness or insanity, did not the history of the inquisition show that men may curse & burn their fellow creatures for difference of opinion, without being drunk or mad. That the author, if he had power & were uncontrolled by publick opinion, would apply the torture & flame to a Unitarian, is no uncharitable inference, & I confess, that it seems to me more respectable to burn an adversary than to breathe out this foul, pestilential, abuse. &c

[illegible]

Were I enough of a partizan to wish to build up my cause by any & every means, I should say to Dr M & his coadjutors in defamation "Go

"on; do not stop; & if bigoted rage ~~can invent~~ can
"invent fouler epithets, pour them upon us - Mul-
"tiply proofs, as much as you please, of your ignorance
"of the design of X^y, & your destitution of its spirit."
But I agree with you that triumphs gained through
others' vices are not to be desired - As to your proper course,
I would observe that whilst you refuse owne it to religion
& good morals to reprobate openly & decisively ~~the~~
this libellous, defamatory preaching, these assaults on
the character of respectable men, these outrages on
the decencies of life, you should yet express no an-
xious desire to vindicate yourselves, but content yourselves
with speaking of these discourses as you would of
Bobbets or Hone's writings, & leave your characters
to take care of themselves. The effect of this preaching
will be to excite in upright & ingenuous minds
a desire to enquire into the grounds of this
unparalleled new style of invective, & I hope
you will have publications to put into the hands
of such - You will also oppose to this bitterness in
your adversaries a true candour, which is hardly
to acknowledge whatever worth may manifest it-
self in those who differ from you. Above all, I repeat it,
let the rage of your persecutors be a new motive
to watchfulness over your own characters & lives - "Let
your light shine", & ~~If~~ let Dr Mc hoodwink as

many as they can, there will still be many to
see & acknowledge it — Mr C & myself rejoice with
you in the birth of your child, & earnestly hope that
it may be spared to you. We are uncommonly blessed in
our children, who enjoy perfect health; & were able to un-
derstand the greatness of your late loss — Our best regards
to Mrs S & your sister; Remember me affectly to your
brother —

Yr sincere friend — W E Channing —

[W. E. Channing]

[illegible]

Henry Sedgwick Esqr
New York
N Y

Are you willing that I should make a public use of the extracts,
— if it should be thought best —

[1821]

Boston. March 27 - 1821

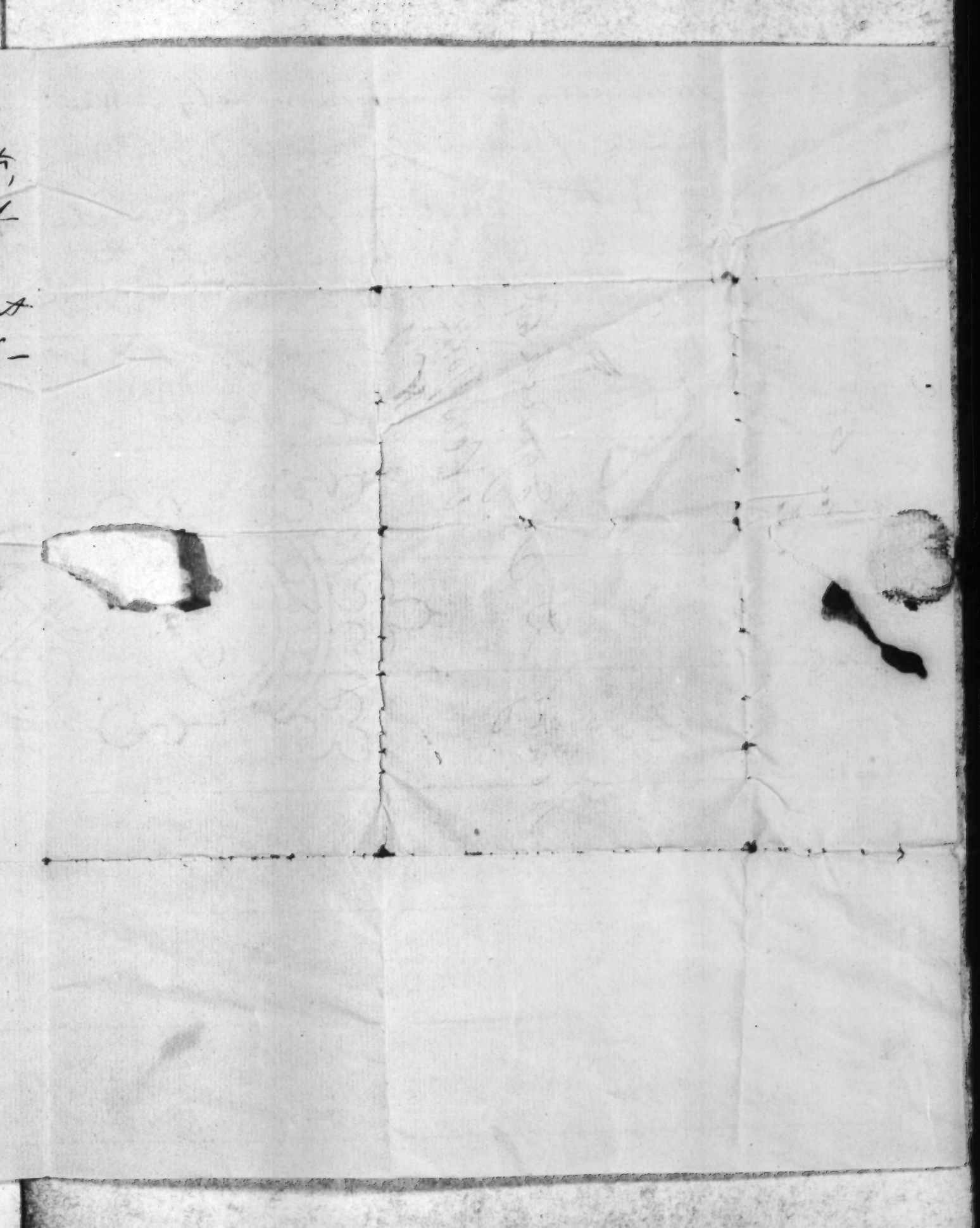
Dear Sir.

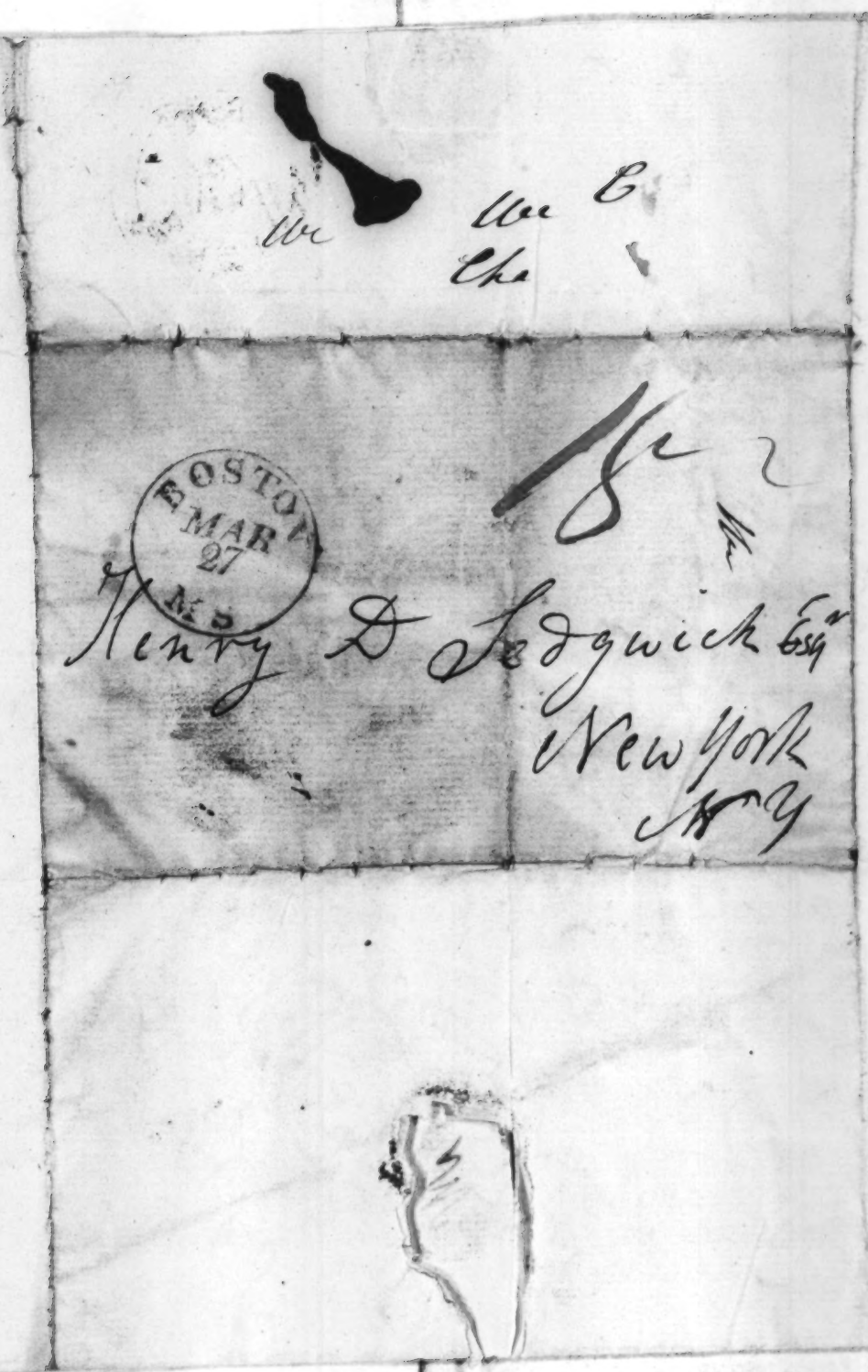
I hope, by permission of Providence to be with you the second sunday in May - Day. This arrangement on the whole will suit me very well. I hope it will not interfere with any expectations you have raised in Mr Jenks - In that case, I should be reluctant to come on - - as to the extracts from Dr M's sermon; I should not wish to publish them with any remarks, - but simply to use them for the purpose of letting people know the shameless abuse which is heaped on us. as for setting up a defence, or meeting such language with retaliation, we have no disposition. It is not wise to be very sensitive on such points, & the only reason for speaking strongly & loudly is, that this abuse is an offence against good morals, & that society is injured by

becoming familiar with immorality. We hear with much pleasure of your good prospects, & desire earnestly that you may find a mistress who will unite with superior talents the spirit of her profession - For such a one we must pray - My affectionate regards to Mrs S - & your brother & sister -

Your sincere friend

Wm E Channing -




BOSTON
MAR
27
Henry D Sedgwick Esq
New York

Boston. May 3. 1821

Dear Sir-

I am truly sorry to be obliged to write to you, that in consequence of the state of my health, it is rather doubtful whether I shall be with you next week - for three or four weeks I have sustained my usual strength, & was then prepared to suffer from a cold which I took last week. I preached last sunday imprudently, & since that time have been afflicted with slight inflammation of lungs, a cough, & great weakness, so as to be incapacitated for all exertion. To day I am very considerably relieved, & may hopefully rise so fast as to be able to commence my journey next monday, though of this I have little hope. If think that should the weather favour, I shall start on Wednesday. Still there is so much uncertainty whether I shall be with you sunday after next, & if I shall, ~~be~~, whether it will be prudent for me to take all the services on myself, that I hope you will engage Mr Fenno to be with you on that day.

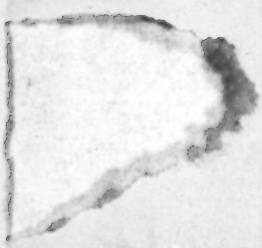
I shall come next week, if possible, because I wish to be with you three sundays, & cannot conveniently extend my absence beyond the time first fixed - I am disappointed, for I hoped that I should have strength on visiting you not only to be useful on Sundays - but thro the week - But I am sure that every thing is ordered wisely - thanks

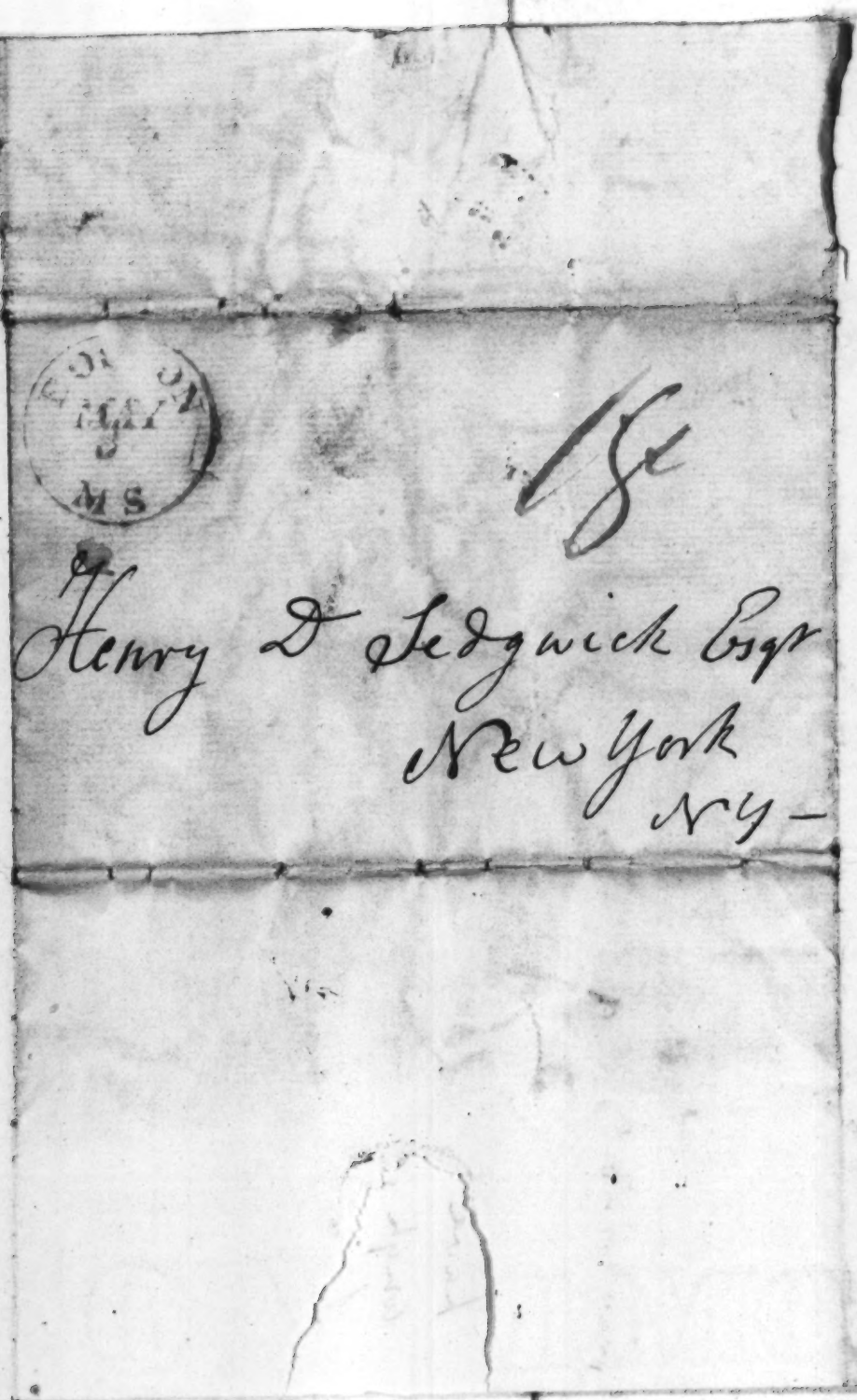
Mrs S & your sister & brother of my affectionate remembrance -

With great regard

Yr friend

Wm E Channing




MAY
MS
15¢
Henry D Sedgwick Esqr
New York
NY—

[1821, May 9]

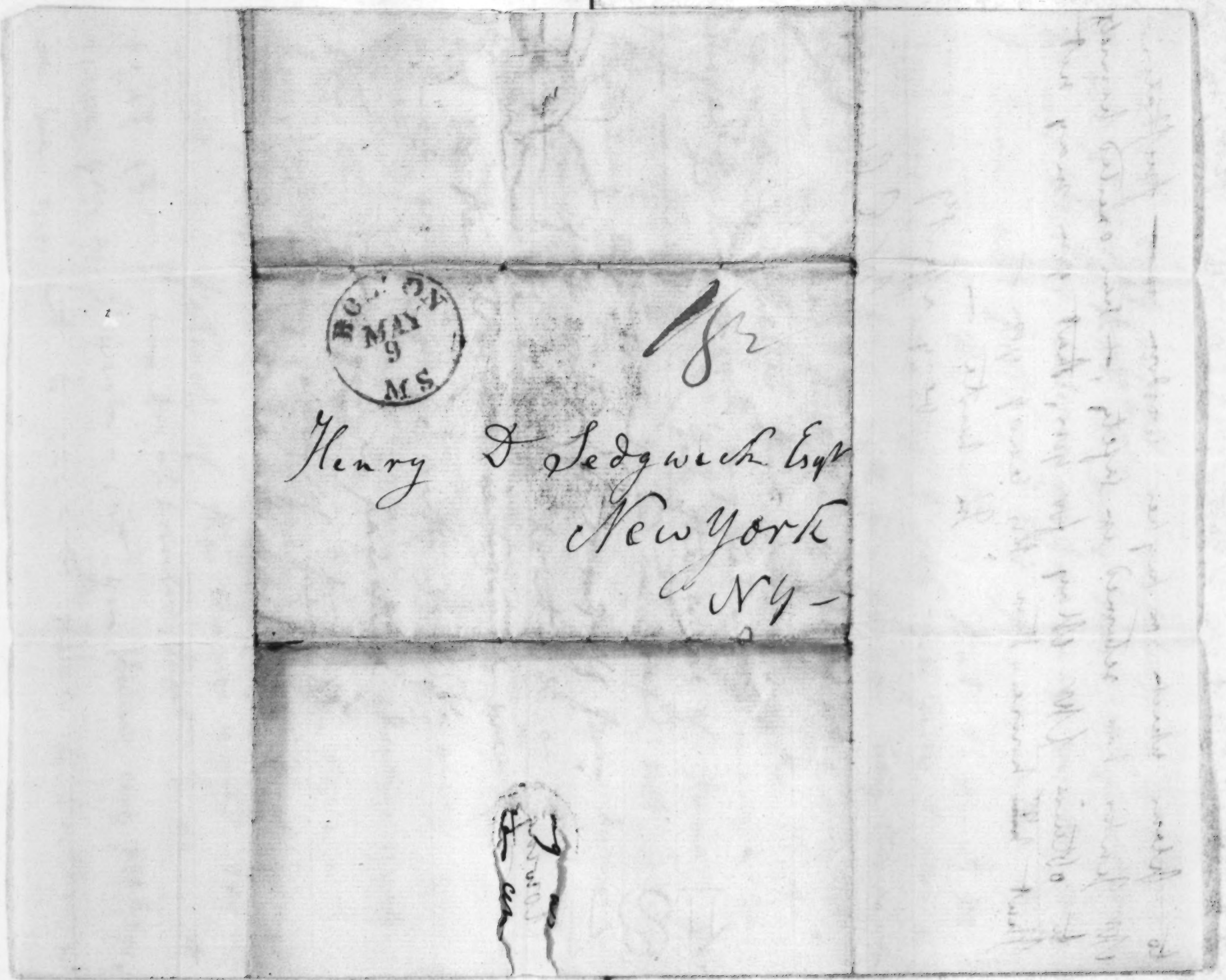
Dear Sir-

I answer Mr Pearsons letter (received yesterday) through you, for I can give to you some explanations more freely, in consequence of your acquaintance with my family state. — I find myself unable to be with you next sunday, & have engaged Mr Mary, a gentleman whom we highly value, to be with you on that day & the two following sundays. I have not however given up the plan of being with you. My brother Walter wishes me to try travelling, & I think of beginning my journey towds N Y to morrow afternoon, which will enable me to take the steam boat at New London monday morning. The two next sundays I hope to spend with you, & shall be able to do something, though I know not how much. My lungs are certainly & my general strength has failed so far that I need rest. Stea

I am not wholly unfitted for usefulness, & sometimes I rise so [illegible] that I may seem to you equal to my ordinary labours — You may wonder why I have not postponed my journey under these circumstances. The truth is, that I must go somewhere now, & unless I see you now, I have no prospect of being with you for a long time & I have supposed that a little service would seem to you better than none. In the last week of this month, my sister's marriage compels me to be here. In the course of June, Miss Channing is to be confined, & could not let me go, even if I could force myself from home. Then comes the intense heat — & as long as this & the pleasant autumnal weather continues, I must be with my family in the country, as far as parochial duties will permit, taking care of their health & my own. I should not be at liberty to visit you, until the latench of the season would prevent it — I am disappointed, that I cannot serve you as I wish — but you know my feelings, & we are not to attach too much importance

to please which a higher wisdom ~~has~~ frustrates
Mr Fenton has returned in safety, & has exerted himself
to obtain Mr Clay for you, that you may not
~~that~~ ~~he~~ know that he leaves you —

In haste —
very affectly
W. E. Channing


BOSTON
MAY
9
MS
182
Henry D Sedgwick Esqr
New York
NY

New York. May 20. 1821.

Dear Mrs. Sedgwick.

My visit to this city has been attended with many disappointments. The greatest certainly is, that I am not able to serve our new church, & express publickly my gratitude to God for collecting this little band to be witnesses to his mercy & goodness, & to worship here, as I hope, in spirit & truth. But next to this nothing has disappointed me so much as the loss of your society. I had understood before leaving Boston, that your general views on the subject of religion had approached mine more nearly than formerly, & I promised myself a freedom of communication with you which our supposed difference had formerly obstructed. I have perhaps an excessive delicacy on this point - but the fear of giving pain to those who think differently on important doctrines seals my lips, & probably prevents us many years an intercourse which could scarce that the discordance is not so startling as had been apprehended. I assure you, it gave me great pleasure to think that I could approach such a mind as yours more nearly than I had done; & some conversation with your brother Henry last evening, in which he gave me a fuller account of your present views

has strengthened this desire. You may be assured, & if I trust you will believe, that the satisfaction with which I listened to your letter, was very different from the triumph of a sectarian at gaining a proselyte. I rejoiced that we could number among us one to whom religion is a reality, & who, besides enjoying the comfort which better views of religion give, will extend these views by means more powerful than sectarian zeal, by a Christian example. It is not the numerical increase of my party in which I have very little of an object with me. I had & power, I would rather this its ranks by dismissing not a few who call themselves Unitarians & have nothing but the name. I desire nothing so earnestly as the spreading of a more devotional spirit & through this class of Christians. It is too true that the intellect is often exercised among us too exclusively. The fear & contempt of fanaticism often quench religious feeling. You will find this to be the case, & I trust that you will not merely escape this chilling influence, but do something to resist it. The prejudices which are so current against our views are to be overcome not so much by ingenious reasoning, as by holy living. A religious system is

certainly not worth defending, which is not fitted to
interest strongly, to work deeply, to take the heart
from the world, & to make God its first object.
Did I not believe that this power, this quickening
Spirit, dwells in the system which I have adopted
I should leave the support of it to other hands.
& get from causes, which, I think, are not hard
to be found, this power is not exerted & manif-
ested as it should be. & work the conviction of
this defect to be felt more extensively & pain-
fully among us; not that I would have Christ-
ians assume through policy expressions of fer-
vour & feeling not prompted by the heart. I
would have them apply themselves immediately to their
hearts, & by prayer & watching kindle with
pure flame within them. hearts. Let the feeling
but exertion & the manifestation of it work not
long be wanting. I have written a long letter when
many seem to have little connection, but which
was intended to express my great satisfaction in
your reception of what seems to me to be Christ-
ian truth, & my earnest desire that you will
bring to us an acceptance of Christian earnestness & feel-
ing. I hope to see you soon - & to enjoy the pleas-
ure which has now been denied me. It would great-

y^q me to hear from you - although I dare not
promise to be a punctual correspondent.

Very affect^y -
y^r sincere friend
Wm E Channing -

Wm E Channing
Recd: 27 May
1821.

Miss Catherine M Sedgwick
Stockbridge
Massachusetts

via Albany

MAY 23

Mrs Fred W Rice
468 Riverside Drive
NYC 27

[aug 19, 1937 not copied]
important

To - Miss Catherine M Sedgwick
Stockbridge, Mass.

New York
May 20th, 1821

Dear Miss Sedgwick

My visit to this city has been attended with many disappointments. The greatest certainly is, that I am not able to serve our new church, & express publicly my gratitude to God for collecting this little band to be witnesses to his unity and goodness, & to worship him, as I hope, in spirit & truth. But next to this nothing has disappointed me so much as the loss of your society. I had understood before leaving Boston, that your general views on the subject of religion had approached mine more nearly than formerly, & I promised myself a freedom of communication with you which our supposed difference had formerly obstructed, and have perhaps an excessive delicacy on this point - but the fear of giving pain to those who think differently on important doctrines seals my lips, & probably prevents in many cases an intercourse which would show that the discordance is not so startling as had been apprehended. I assure you, it gave me great pleasure to think that I could approach such a mind as yours more nearly than I had done; & some conversation with your brother Henry last evening, in which he gave me a fuller account of your present views has strengthened this desire. You may be assured, & I trust you will believe, that the satisfaction with which I listened to your brother, was very different from the triumph of a sectarian at gaining a proselyte. I rejoiced that we could number among us one to whom religion is a reality, & who, besides enjoying the comfort which better views of religion give, will extend these views by means more powerful than sectarian zeal, by a Christian example. The numerical increase of my party is very little of an object with me. Had I power, I would rather thin its ranks by dismissing not a few who call themselves Unitarians & have nothing but the name. I desire nothing so earnestly as the spreading of a more devotional spirit through this class of Christians. It is too true that the intellect is often excerised among us too exclusively. The fear & contempt of fanaticism often quench religious feeling. You will find this to be the case, & I trust that you will not merely escape this chilling influence, but do something to resist it. The prejudices which are so current against our views are to be overcome not so much by ingenious reasoning, as by holy living. A religious system is certainly not worth defending, which is not fitted to interest strongly, to work deeply, to take the heart from the world, and to make God its first object. Did I not believe that this power, his quickening spirit, dwells in the system which I have adopted I should leave the support of it to other hands; & yet from causes, which, I think, are not hard to be found, this power is not exerted & manifested as it should be. I wish the consciousness of this defect to be felt more extensively & painfully among us; not that I would have Unitarians assume through policy expressions of fervor & feeling not prompted by the heart. I would have them apply their principles to their hearts, & by prayer & watching kindle some flame within them. Let the feeling but exist - & the manifestation of it will not long be wanting. I have written a long letter which may seem to have little

connection, but which was intended to express my great satisfaction in your reception of what seems to me to be Christian truth, & my earnest desire that you will bring to us an accession of Christian earnestness & feeling. I hope to see you soon - & to enjoy the pleasure which has now been denied me. It would gratify me to hear from you although I dare not promise to be a punctual correspondent.

Very affect^{y}

Y^{r} sincere friend

Wm E.Channing

Wednesday eve- July 25- 1821-

My dear wife-

I wrote you this morning from Taunton, giving an account of our journey to that place. After an early breakfast, we began our task & proceeded with sufficient expedition under the shelter of clouds. I found myself, stronger so as to talk much, & thought I did not draw out my new companion as much as I wished, & succeeded enough to give me very favourable impressions- We stopt nearly four hours at the half way house, & here at every where else found good accommodations. On entering Dorchester we were driven to a tavern by the sudden rising of a very black cloud, which soon poured down a torrent of rain, but we escaped all inconvenience. I departed safely at noon- door a part of my company, & there received your letter by Mr Rogers, which was truly a restorative after the fatigues of my journey. I take care of that aching head. Mr Doggett has suffered nothing & I have gained some strength. My jour-

rest has been so obviously beneficial that I shall try to start again on Friday. Steve & Denise to be free to return you. Sarah has given up the thought of accompanying us - I am encouraged by my speedy recovery after my late attack. I may get be of use out [illegible] in a narrow sphere - It was rejoiced to hear that your mother was better. If it would be perfectly agreeable to your mother to have her return to the farm after a short visit to town, I beg you to urge it - We must expect some warm weather, & should she return to Boston, she may suffer from it, especially after so much cold - I can write no more, but must go to bed & rest - Love to all

Yr affect husband-

Mr. William E Channing

Newport

(No 3.) Friday - 23th July - '21
Boston -

My dear sucfe -

It almost makes me smile to begin my letters with numbering them, a circumstance seeming to imply that they are worth arranging & preserving, when in truth I am as aware as any one can be that the highest honour due to them & perhaps the fate reserved for them is to protect pastry, remember - I confess however the numbers give me one pleasure - They prove if not the fertility of my brain, the constancy of my mind, which consists chiefly in absence by holding silent intercourse with my dearest friends & wrote you by Post, of my journey - but did not say enough of the pleasure I found in Mrs Rogers, & her little girl, a child of seven years, very intelligent, somewhat in danger from excessive care & attention, & an instance of the selection & variety of language which a child may acquire - & soas struck with her acquaintance with the power of words, & with the completeness of her sentences. By the way, do you know that you

are often deficient in this way - breaking off a sentence
when you have said enough to suggest your meaning,
or seeming to begin without an anticipation of what
you are to say. Some of our family have the de-
fect, & it is a considerable one where children are
to be trained - But now to business - This after-
noon, I begin my journey, going to Andover to night,
& to Concord (N H) to morrow - where I shall
spend sunday - I am sorry that my route is as yet
so unsettled, that I know not where letters should
be directed to me. You will know this as soon as pos-
sible - Sarah does not go, nor did I work it - She has
heard of the sickness of Hannah's child, & will probably
start soon in that direction - I have never
regretted this friendship ~~[illegible]~~ as matter has
done, for however engrossing by it I am still glad that
she has attached herself to one at least of a sim-
ple, natural character, - I have taken, in Sarah's
place, a young lady of Newbury Pt, Miss MacLean
(I probably do not spell the name right) whom I have
never seen, but where health requires a journey,
whilst her narrow circumstances forbid it, & who
I learn has all the qualifications of intelligence & tem-

ance per which are needed on a journey - Susan knows
ng, her, & is common with many friends is deeply interest-
ed in her - You will know more of her yet - & began
- the journey with Ashe, for my late ride to New-
e last did wonders for me - but & have ceased to be san-
guine. & have made every preparation & used every
ter- precaution, & leave the event to a kind & un-
ght erring Providence - Take care of yourself - You have
- duties which require strength, & you must be enlig-
ht- lightened enough to spare yourself present exhaustion
d for the sake of doing more for your children by & by -
- & can give you no more time now - To the
- children & our mothers say all that is fit -
y all do well - Susan has no other matter in prospect -
but she thought that whilst & was here & writing you,
her pen might sleep - Do not give any encouragement
to Mother's idea of being neglected - & tell me to say
that she regretted forgetting Mother's gown & the child-
rens shoes - Farewell my dear sweet -

Sarah says,
Will you send to the beach & see if lodgings can be
obtained for Mrs James Murray & her sick child -
who need bathing - Plain accommodation will do -

BOSTON
JUL
25
10
Mr William E Channing.
Newport
R I.

1821.

(No 4) Concord. N.H. Sunday morn.g. July 29.

My dear wife—

I wrote you friday before beginning my journey. On that day I left home about 3 P.M. & rode to Andover, about 19 miles, over the pleasantest turnpike within my knowledge. Instead of one dull & tiresome stretch of weary length before you, the road winds perpetually thro woods of pine trees, which at this season are clothed with unusually rich & fresh foliage — At Andover, Mr Stuart spent the evening with me, & my companion were astonished as well as gratified at seeing the good humor & unaffected kindness with which theological opponents can sometimes converse together. He made no reference to my late letter — Yesterday we started soon after six & reached this place, a distance of 43 miles, quite enough journey for me, & I bore it to my own admiration. We dined at Chester on the edge of a beautiful pond, called Massebesic, & of our temperance was not endangered by high living, our eyes were feasted by a fine prospect. We often had the mere-

made in sight through the day, & sometimes
considerable mountains to the west - & slept
well, & have only to-day a gratitude which
makes the rest of Sunday more grateful. My
companions are gone to church - but I have
thought it my duty to stay at home, where not
only the body will repose, but my mind will
probably be as much nourished by meditation
& reading as by going to the church near
one - Then I write now leave you - & finish
my letter in the evening -

Sunday evening - I have spent a very agreeable &
I hope not unprofitable Sunday, though denied the
privilege of "going with the multitude" to church. My
companions have all shown religious complaisance,
& I never felt myself more at liberty to com-
municate my whole mind on the subject which
is so continually occupies it. We seem too much
afraid to be drawn into controversy, nor do we
want this excitement. We talk of religion as a
principle of the heart, a source of life & joy - at
sunset, I, shrunk from my lodgings, to which
I had been confined not only by a sense of
propriety, but by a degree of heat which would
have made walking an effort. I shall dedicate

conducts you to the Merrimack- To morrow morning, we propose to start early & go twenty six miles to Meredith-bridge, a pleasant spot in the vicinity of a large pond called on the map "Great Bay" & which I presume communicates with the Winnepiseogee Lake. The next day we go to the Lake, though I have not yet determined as to the point at which we shall visit it. I have almost given up the thought of approaching the White Mountains, fearing that I [illegible] exhaust myself. I shall probably from the Lake to Haverhill on Connecticut river, where are Newbury Springs, & thence go down the river to Mouth. River, along which we shall cross the Green mountains to Burlington- & write you immediately to Burlington, Vermont- & commend you & ours to God's keeping & protection & hope soon to be restored to you- Love to mother & kiss the children- -I still enjoy add, I continue well- almost too well for the relaxation- but I must work the harder-

Farewell-

12½

JULY

Mr. William E. Channing

Newport.

R. Island

No 4 - Centre Harbour. July 31st 1821.
Tuesday morning -

My dear Sophia -

I wrote you from Concord, N H, sunday last - giving you an account of our journey so far - Monday morng, we (yesterday) left the publick house where we had been found comfort & kind treatment, & after travelling about twenty six miles reached Meredith bridge, which separates the towns of Gilford & Meredith. The road lay thro a hilly country, which opened to us a succession of interesting views, & which though rather rude & uncultivated, was an amusing, for you could plainly see that it was improving, new huts & houses making their appearance among the woods & hills - The condition of this people, if you may judge from the looks of their buildings & grounds is not indeed as yet very desirable - not that their houses are small & simply boarded with no protection of shingles - but you observe a negligence, carelessness, destitute in their yards, & about their doors, & in their houses too (as far as a traveller's eye can penetrate) showing that a more substantial subsistence is the great object & almost limit of their thoughts. The poor had one characteristick of N England - they swarmed with children. The uneven surface of the

country gave us frequent view of the fine ponds which ~~are the~~ abound in this part of the State. As we approached Meredith ~~village~~ bridge we were particularly delighted with a noble collection of water, called the Great Bay, which communicates with the Winnipesaugee, & through which that Lake sends a liberal contribution to the Merrimack. The water is remarkably clear, hardly surpassed I should think by Lake George. We pronounced ourselves not a little enjoyment at this spot - but the heat which was very intense imprisoned us until near sunset - & the publick house was hot & disordered - so that with great beauty about us, we found a little trial for patience rather than excitements to gratitude - To shew you the care which ~~was~~ is taken of me, I will give you one incident - The ~~The~~ My companion, finding no fat sheets, borrowed a pair from a neighbour, which I suppose to be a part of the stock of the house, & in which I rested very luxuriously, finding that my companions were as well suited as myself. But I found this morning that whilst I was lying in clover, they were lying in their clothes on the coverlid - Our miseries however vanished with the night - after an early breakfast, we took our last look of the pleasant bridge & pond, & of the

house where we had found more ~~comfort~~ kindness than comfort — & began our journey under a soft sky & in a mild but fresh & ~~—~~ bracing atmosphere — very soon, an ascent opened to us a prospect which made us forget past inconveniences — On our right, we discovered a noble range of mountains, with their ~~declivities~~ towards us thrown into shade, & with a waving outline of so gentle & beautiful an to form an affecting contrast with their grandeur & solemnity — I have just learnt that among them was the Ossa ~~Pelion~~, of which you have often heard — Below them was a land of considerable extent though called the "Little bay", ~~a part~~ of it darkened by the eminences beyond it, ~~& the other part of it~~ which was nearest us partially brightened by the sun's light which fell on it through a soft mist. The mist was dense enough to be impressed with the shadows of the ~~trees on the~~ neighbouring heights, so as to give an singular mixture of light & shade in it's thin & ethereal substance, yet not so dense as to prevent a distinct ~~necessary~~ reflexion of the trees in the tranquil surface of the land — Have I helped you to look through my eyes — The view was so delightful the ~~beauty of it touching a character~~, that I ~~wanted~~ you to enjoy it — ~~Jack to Si-san~~, "Mat[illegible] ters there babies are"! but I was not slow to

remember that babies are better than mountains & lakes - & I hoped too, (for who can extinguish hope) that there "fetters" being transmuted by time into supports, we might visit there Scots under the happiest circumstances - At length the Stranraer steeple came in sight, at the distance of about 10 miles from Meredith Bridge - & we had glimpses of it until we reached this house about 13 miles from that spot - Here we have found almost an the edge of the Lake a publick house, which ought rather to be called a private one, it is so retired, ~~not so~~ & genteel, & the family are so friendly, retaining all the habits of a respectable farmers family - The air of comfort within doors, & the delightful scenery without (of which more in another letter & for I have described enough for once) almost immediately determined us to spend the day here. One of our company has called it paradise, & threatened to become the Poet of it. Paradise Point. She will be another example how soon many be given up for the shadows of unattained good - I shall not go to the White mountains - & although my route is not marked out very precisely, I think that I shall ~~[illegible]~~ go from this place to Haverhill in Connecticut river;

thence down the river to White River; thence to Burlington where I hope a letter from you — —

Wednesday morning. Beaten Harbour —

I am still here & cannot but use my licence in making you a partaker of my feelings, which happily for us both, are sufficiently joyous to be communicated without impeachment of my benevolence. On looking over what I wrote yesterday — I fear that you may judge too unfavourably of the condition of the people. I ought to have told you that our road yesterday from Meredith bridge brought us thro a more cultivated country — through many fine fields waving with wheat; & the general appearance of the houses was that of greater comfort & order than we saw the day before. We have found the people in Jonblack houses, to which indeed our visits have been almost confined, more intelligent & respectable than we had expected. The Village at Meredith bridge has several sufficiently handsome houses & seems quite a thriving place — Beaten Harbour at which we now are is a very scattered settlement, having nothing worthy the name of a village. The house of which we have taken possession is quite solitary, on the descent of a hill which rises from the Lake. It has not an appearance of a tavern — but of a pleasant cottage at which we seem to be visiting — From the east window at which I now sit, & out of which my eye often

steals, & looks down immediately on the Lake, but not on such a sheet of water as your imagination probably represents to you. I learned, before I reached it, that the Winnipisogee was studded with islands of considerable extent & in great number - so that you can take in but a small part of it from the shores - But whilst this takes from its unity & grandeur, you find beauties of another kind. The channels which divide the islands, the numerous points, projections, shores fringed with trees, & multiplying the lights & casting shadows on the water, give an interest to the scene which you can understand - The shore opposite to me is covered with pines which stretch to some distance, & beyond them rises the noble Ossipee, which when covered with the bright mist which now floats over it, & have more than once, when accidentally glancing upon it, taken for a vast mass of clouds - My eye rests upon it with increasing pleasure - & I feel that were I a neighbour to a mountain, I should establish a friendship with it perhaps more intimate than I have formed with any part of nature - My mind seems to enlarge, to swell, when with these majestick forms which seem kindred with the skies - To see this Lake as a

a while; it is necessary to go to the top of some hill or mountain - & ever since our arrival. We planned an expedition to a neighbouring mountain called Red hill yesterday afternoon. But the heat was so intense, that we could not start early enough & postponed the visit to this morning - We accordingly rose a little after four, intending to move soon after five - But unhappily a swaggon on which we relied was broken yesterday, & we were compelled to wait until near seven - & took my seat for the first time in a waggon - & after riding three miles, half of which was over stumps & stones, & finding that we had not yet reached the foot of the mountain from which a miles ascent was required to carry us to the top, my courage began to fail. & found that I should not reach the top before nine o'clock - if as soon - that I must then make the descent on foot & ride again over the rough road at a snail's pace, under a burning sun, & I felt myself called to sacrifice my wishes, & to remember that health & not pleasure & fine prospects were the end of my journey. Susan & myself therefore turned back - leaving our companions who are more patient of heat to toil up the steep - They are still absent - & if they do not return

too much embarrassed, we shall probably leave this pleasant spot this afternoon & go to Plymouth a distance of twelve miles - I am better - & have a great deal to say to you - but must stop for want of room -

Write to me immediately at Albany - & in a day or two to Brattleborough, Vermont -

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Mrs William E Channing.
Newport.
Rhode-Island -

Manchester Village
Vt. August 30 1824

May 13th

regard

Hanover. N.H. Augt. 3. Saturday morng

My dear wife.

I wrote you last from Centre, Harbour, on the northern extremity of Winnepiseogee, & brought down the account of my journey to Wednesday noon. On the afternoon of that day, we left the Harbour for Plymouth about 12 miles. We began with an ascent of about ½ a mile, which gave us the finest view I had taken of the Lake & of the mountains round it. We were somewhat disappointed in quitting this pleasant spot sorrowful being able to take a sail - but the heat was so oppressive as to make our little cottage a very desirable shelter. At short distance brought us to the view of another Lake, worthy of a better name, called the Great Squam, 7 or 8 miles in extent, of which we often caught partial & interesting views. At the North rise some noble mountains called the Sandwich. We had not proceeded far when we came to a very steep hill, which tasked our horses to the utmost - & in the middle of it our whiffletree broke suddenly, leaving one of them to the undertree which was carrying him upward. By the skill of the driver in wheeling the other

home, we were kept from wandering back - & by one of the happy accidents, as we call them, which we should oftener notice were we more apt to think we found near home in a house, & a kind hearted man, & a waggon which supplied us with a shuffle tea until we could reach the next town. It seemed as if we had been stopt at the very place where travellers ought to be detained, for on walking to the top of the hill, we found ourselves not only in view of the great Squam to a considerable extent, but of two other lakes, the Little Squam, & the White ones had of a wide range of country - Such a transition from anxiety to exultation is not common. We forgot our calamity in the joy & triumph which such scenery gives - You have been enough in such spots to know the exhilarating power of the great features of nature - The mind seems to swell & rise with what surrounds it - But our troubles were not ended. We soon entered on a new road, with the companion of which gradients logs & rocks were largest ingredients - We armed ourselves with the fine trees & shrubbery which hemmed us in - until the sky grew black before us, & the thunder began to menace us. The

case however admitted no cure. Neither storm nor
wind could carry our horses much more than two
miles an hour. Oby companion welcomed the
thunder as a fit accompaniment to the scene
through which we had passed - but I did not
entirely sympathize with them as we had to
cross a ferry before reaching our inn. My apprehen-
sions however were not realized, the weight of the
cloud passing to the Southward, & the ferry, which
we reached at eight o'clock proving very serious.
Here we crossed the main branch of the Merrimack, called Pemegewasset - At Plymouth we
found good lodging - & next morning started for
Haverhill on the Connecticut, about 32 miles dis-
tant. This day we shall not so soon forget. The rain
had increased the freshness of the verdure, which
was as vivid & rich as in Spring & June. We
rode until dinner along a river, called Ba-
ker's, which falls into the Pemegewasset, a modest
shy stream, which hides itself a great part
of the way, between beautiful shrubbery on
its banks, & winds thro a valley from which
hills & mountains rise on every side - The most
sometimes in considerable masses, sometimes fleecy
& shifting, hung on the sides of the heights

I am afraid you will think me inclined to a little extravagance - for we found all this delight on a road which seems never to have been spoken of as worth travelling. But after dinner, we were even more delighted than before. We left the river which had guided us thus accommodatingly level road & began to ascend, & thus brought more distant parts of the country to view, particularly the Moosehillock mountain - the highest land in the State next to the White mountains - the changing outlines of the heights, the variety & richness of the foliage, the extent of wood consisting of the finest & tallest pine & maples as well as oaks &c, the occasional dark ravines & brooks at the side of the road furnished matter of continual interest. We had not time to rest from admiration & feel the fatigues of a hilly road. The country was indeed rough, though where cultivated, it richly repaid the labour, showing numerous fine fields of grass - little to many travellers, it would seem rude, & probably be wearisome. You must enter into the spirit of mountains, lakes, valleys, to

enjoy this country - & it will then give a more delight. It is not made up merely of grand & wild features, although these predominate. It is full of beauty, but not beauty dressed with care. & art - but ~~beauty~~ running at large, with more freedom, & disordered attire - One thing is certain, my mind was kept in constant & exhilarated action - This is the effect of such scenery, to exalt my spirits - but enough - too much - We reached Haverhill Thursday night - & yesterday came to this place - but can give you no particulars - We are just about to start - & are all well - I know not that I have gained flesh - but I have strength & spirits -

HANOVER
Aug 6
N.H.
Mrs William E Channing
Newport
Rhode Island

(No 7) Vt N H C

Sharon - on White River - 12 miles from Hanover

Inside Saturday afternoon — August 4th —

My dear sweet — I left for you a letter at Hanover this morning written so hastily that I could not read it over, & which should have been numbered 6. I gave you there our journey to Haverhill, on Connecticut River. I fear that you & other friends may wonder at the delight I found in the interior of N Hampshire, a rude country, little cultivated, with bad roads, & thever spoken of — But when I found myself among its mountains & lakes I seemed to draw in a new existence from there glorious objects — There was too a mixture of beauty with the wider & larger features of nature for which I was not prepared. The road carried us continually by fine field of grain — & there was a freshness in the grass, & a fulness & brightness in the foliage of the far-reaching woods which feasted the eye & gave it rest after wandering over mountains. Besides, mountains have often as much beauty as grandeur — & the promontories & lakes clothed with trees to the very water's edge are among the exquisite objects in nature. I found too more pleasure than I expected, in the human part of the scenery — We were often struck with the children, who instead of hair crisped & bright white

in the sun had dark locks & often dark eyes giving an expression to the countenance which we thought not as common in any part of the country. Susan in particular insisted that the people were decidedly handsomer than where she had lived - The common country houses often pleased us much. They are generally cottages of but one story, with a roof of a single pitch & considerably sloping - two windows on each side the door - & so proportioned as to give you a perfect sense of unity, simplicity - I repeat however, what I told you in my last, that to most people who cannot extol the finest of mountain & lakes, the country would be uncommon, & I should not dare to recommend it to most travellers. Yesterday morning - we rode from Haverhill to Newbury Springs, on the Vermont side of the river, which are unprepossessing, though not very strongly, with regard to matter. - Our great object however was to see a striking bend in the river called the Ox-Bow - The rain, which fell whilst we were on the way prevented our leaving the main road from which the view was not good, so that we could do little more than take the curve by the shortest way

on the banks instead of seeing much of the riv-
er - The place deserved half a day, & we could give
it but a few minutes - We now began to descend
the Connecticut from Haverhill on the N Hampshire
side, ~~&~~ This road ~~from the to Hanover~~ was altogether
new to me - & having never heard of it, I sup-
posed that ~~the~~ river, being here comparatively nar-
rows, was little marked by the mild beauty which
it possesses above ~~distinguishes it from~~ all ~~other~~ streams. I soon
found however ~~that~~ I was on the Connecticut.
The change from the sudden ~~& sublime~~ scene-
ry which we had just left was very striking -
But we ~~[illegible]~~ found that grandeur had not de-
stroyed our sensibility to beauty. The stream is
not a quarter of the width which you see at Northam-
pton, nor have you here that extent of rich inter-
val on each side loaded with an almost unpar-
alleled fertility - But the more rapid turns of ~~the~~
current, ~~&~~ the greater nearness of the banks en-
abling you to connect at a little distance the
shrubbery & trees on both, & the more sudden swells
of the adjoining country make the river more pictu-
resque. In Orford, the village of which is very beautiful,
a few miles below Haverhill, we found one winding of
the stream which gave us great delight - but in the
afternoon, in the town of ~~Limes~~ Lyme, we were almost

overpowered by the scenery - A most refreshing
rain in the morning had given a bright look to
the country, & particularly a bright life & fresh-
ness to the grass which I had never seen sur-
passed. We ascended gradually a hill, & I wish
I could communicate to you my sensations - The
river was just below us to the west. The country
on the other side (of which our view had been completely
bounded by the hills rising from the stream) the same side
but on both sides the north & south
of us opened into two wide, far reaching &
gently ascending valleys, of which indeed they were
hollowed enough to be so called. Or rather extensive
ever did not swell gradually as they receded to
the horizon, but were intersected with eleva-
tions which rose one behind the other, each pre-
senting to the eye a line of shrubbery & foliage in the
tops of which the sun shed a rich mellow light,
whilst the sides towards us were thrown into
shade - not that there was much regularity
in this, for the lofty clouds distributed un-
equally the splendours of the sun. The pros-
pect was rich, magnificent to a wonderful
degree, & you would have called it grand,
had not beauty, a soft touching beauty, so
melted its parts into one another, & spread

such harmony, & upon them over the whole as to assort, etc. [illegible] a new sublimity to the scene. We began, with entreating our admiration - but silence soon showed that the heart was too much softened for talking. When I tell you that tears flowed, you will understand that they were not mine, for the fountain has very deep in me - but I gave you no notion of the one sentiment that all agreed, that we could endure the grandeur then which we had [illegible] much better than this loveliness & tenderness of beauty - The last exhausted - the first gave an exalting, transmittant feeling - I relate merely a sensation. We have been too busy to analyze or to try to explain them - We arrived at Hanover, & found a comfortable hotel - Upon mentioning I wrote you we left, & we then began to explore Vermont, taking the White River turnpike 14 miles below Hanover - Upon a pretty pleasant, & often quite still [illegible] we entered, & unlike the [illegible] we with its eloquent murmurs accompanied entertaining, now with its [illegible] rocky & [illegible] shallow, stony & sometimes rocky bottom - Were this river near Boston, surrounded, near much of its present - but to one who has been so prodigally favored by nature as I have lately been, it gives only a sober pleasure - & I assure

you that this circumstance has gratified me - It began had
to fear, that my friend was to ride what pretends
& that my late enjoyment of Nature was more
real - that I had been giving to nature the
scenery, praise, which a sense was
should have questioned - But my feelings to-day
satisfy me of my sanity - & that I can distin-
guish between the magnificent & the
more ordinary works of Nature - Not that White River
is to be treated lightly - We are indebted to it al-
ready for much pleasure - We have found too on its
banks a house where pleases us more than any
tavern since we began the journey - one of which
we heard comparatively nothing - but which
stands on the banks of the river, within the
sound of its murmurs, & on the midst
of an amphitheatre of hills of various & pleasing
forms - some finely wooded - We find, too, neatness,
& good countenances & all important comforts
within doors - so that instead of going seventeen
miles farther & spending Sunday at a house of
which we know little, we have determined to spend
this day here, & a large part of to-morrow, as we intend
to ride the seventeen miles towards sunset - & now
my dear wife, having tried to make you a sharer of
my joys - I must say - farewell - believe to

hear from you at Brandington, Albany & Brattleboro
Love to all. The children must not forget me — L

May 19th

Mrs William E Channing

Hartford
Aug-6

Newport
Rhode Island

(No 8) Sharon. Vt - Sunday, morning. Aug.t 4.

My dear wife -

I wrote you a long letter, I believe, of six or seven pages from this place yesterday, (No 7), in which I put down my journey to that date, & gave you my reasons for stopping here. We have had no reason to change our opinion of the place - We have found a peaceful place, with delightful walks on the banks of the murmuring river, & in view of encreases, which, however inferior to what we have seen, are yet furnish much gratification to taste & nutriment to devotion - I am not insensible to the benefits of publick worship - yet a sunday occasionally spent in the profound quiet of the country, when all human labours & tumults cease as if to leave this glorious creature to send up undisturbed praise to Heaven, when piety can listen to the "still voice" of the universe unbroken by a discordant sound, is peculiarly delightful to me - Our enjoyment indeed at this place has not been unbroken, & solemn thoughts now & then will mix with our reflexions as we look on or hear the stream - Yesterday afternoon as we were walking on its banks, we met some females who had just crossed it in a canoe, & observed to them, that it was too shallow to explore them to peril. Their reply was, that it had dangerous whirlpools - & of this we soon had proof - In the evening our landlady came into our room to announce that a lad

belonging to the place was just drowned. I hastened to the spot at no great distance — where I was called to the same trade as befel me at Fall River — I found a considerable collection of people on the rocks near that part of the channel where the boy had sunk & was then lying — but not an appearance of exertion for recovering him — He had been in the water twenty minutes, & they said he was dead. Two or three had gone for a boat, & the rest were looking into the stream as idly as if it were not the grave of a fellow being — "Can none of you swim? Have you no physicians? What means have you of raising the bottom? &c" were questions which I asked with some earnestness — & I had the satisfaction of seeing, that when suggestions were made & repeated they were not wholly lost — But there was little spirit — & a want of resource which astonished me. ~~And the event~~ ~~[illegible]~~ After waiting one hour, & seeing no prospect of success from the exertions of the people, I returned to our lodgings, where I found my companions suffering much from the shock — The morning the body was found — & I am more ~~& more~~ deepened to ascribe the inaction of the people, which at first moved my indignation, to a want of self command, & of capacity for meeting sudden emergencies, than to hard-heartedness — And thus it was — There is nothing

here to give us unmixed - those cheerfully & unsuspectingly had & looked on this current, & yesterday afternoon as I sat on a rock by a rapid, & observed to my companions, how much of life & spirit there seemed in the hurrying, rushing, eager stream. I now look on it with a soberer eye - & see in it an emblem of the stream of prosperous life, fast flowing, concealing dangerous depths, & swallowing up those who plunge into it with most ardent hope - I see that the most glorious & interesting parts of the creation may become instruments of destruction & woe, & am instructed that there is but one unfailing, unchangeable good: I was affected this morning, when resting by the rock from which the young man went into the river, with observing that it gave one of the finest views of the current & surrounding scenery which I have met here - & find that the incidents of my journey have so far occupied me, that I have said little in my letters of my health & nothing of my companions - I am better, stronger, more & more satisfied with the journey as a means of health, & my invalid companion, Miss Marquand, is much more decidedly benefited - This afternoon, we go 17 miles to Bethel - & I shall take on this letter with me -

Middlebury - Augt 6 - Tuesday morng - Lenox. My dear P - Sunday afternoon I left Sharon & rode along the Housatonic river to Bethel, about 17 miles - Yesterday morng we started early - & crossed the Green mountains to this place - 40 miles all well - We start this morning soon, & I cannot write

the country through which we have passed by attempting to describe it, until I have more leisure - Love to all -

—

MIDDLEBORO MASS

Mrs William E. Channing

Boston

Mass -

(No 9) Sudbury. Vermont. 16 miles from Middlebury — Tuesday noon. Augt — 6 —

My dear wife —

I sent you a letter this morning from Middlebury, the town in Vermont which contains a college of some reputation & promise, but in my haste I directed it to Boston ~~after I~~ not Newport, & forgot to number it. It should have been No 8 — & if Sarah should not forward it, you can send for it. I smile a little at the recollection of my letter, which I am afraid would seem to some not very creditable to my sanity — and indeed it is a new work to me to embody the impressions which I receive from natural scenery — & almost any person but you might suspect me of some exaggeration — But ~~thou~~ you ~~know~~ knowest my love of nature most sincere; and if I wrote too much about what I see, you will know the motive, to make you my companion & the sharer of my joys — In my last account of myself, I was at Sharon, a town in Vermont, 8 miles from the mouth of White ~~that~~ river — I remember, I spoke of that river as having given me much pleasure, but as not having excited the strong emotions which the former parts of my journey, I have since found, ~~but~~ I wronged this stream. As I ascended towards its source, its mountainy characteristick grew more & more striking, & I call it a river — It is indeed a peculiar stream — & possesses a remarkably ~~content~~ with the ~~connecticut~~ into which it emptites — The moment you leave the point where they

meet, I may say, the very first flask you take on White river, you feel that you are forming a new acquaintance; that you have found a river of different features & habits, not contented to wind slowly & silently through fertile & smooth banks, but full of spirit & youthful sportiveness; loving solitudes, but not for meditation, but that it may leap & dance without restraint & listen to its own wild murmurs; & multiplying its quick turns, as if eager for change; rushing against the stones & rocks, like youth engaging in mock contests - The whole stream has an exhilarating air from its beginning - but it was not until leaving the tavern Sunday afternoon, under a glorious sky, that I felt its power - In a short time, the banks began to rise more precipitously & to a greater height, & the turns of the river were more sudden, & the bank on which we rode steeper, so that we found ourselves in the midst of the wildest scenery which I remember - Before, behind, all round us, were high heights thrown together in a confused manner - Sometimes presenting us an end - sometimes opening into views of some extent - & receiving from the sun, as you will easily, a most various, shifting light - Indeed, such confusion of lights & shades, of opposition & painter illumination, you cannot easily conceive - I found

the effect on my own mind quite different from that of former scenery - It seem not as exalting as the mountain grandeur of New Hampshire - but it exhilarated me more, gave me the very excitement which an invalid needs - This very striking scenery continues but a few miles - Then the banks recede more gradually, - the hills slope more gently. The stream seems willing to repose itself awhile at its high movement into spots of quiet beauty, - still it keeps up its consistency - It slumbers no where - & when the it surface is smoothest, you will see & there see a rock or stone breaking its uniformity, & making its motion visible by a little eddy, or a line of depression on the water - We past through a very pleasant town named Bogalton, on built - on quite a handsome style on a fine part of the stream, & slept at the Bethel Inn enteen miles from where we started, almost hill & water - By the way, I have said nothing of our accommodations, & as this is a great concernment to an invalid traveller, I will tell you for your comfort, that I have found better fare & lodging than I expected, bread generally sweet - & fresh meat every day but one - & people almost universally obliging - The account of what we saw yesterday must be a day, when we crossed the green mountains, I must defer to stop again - only adding, that I left Middlebury this morning, & took the direct road to Lake

Glens falls, instead of going as we had proposed to Burlington - From Glens falls, we go to Lake George, & thence to Burlington, & thence cross Vermont again - probably to Bellows falls - We have given up Albany & Lebanon, finding green mountain air & scenery so much more interesting - & have sent to have letters forwarded from Albany to Lake George -

Wednesday eve - Sandy Hill N Y - thirty - 8. I left myself in my letter of yesterday at Bethel, Vermont. Early on monday morning, long before sunrise, I surveyed the heavens from my window, & planned myself just such a day as we wanted, cool & bright. Cool at present, but not as bright as I hoped. The clouds soon shut in the sun & began to menace rain.

Our course lay for twenty miles (to Hancock) along the White river, which continued to wind a murmur through much the same scenery as we had seen towards the end of the preceding days journey. After our dinner at Hancock, we addressed ourselves to a labour which we had anticipated with little interest - I mean - the ascent of the green mountains - We left at this place our pleasant companion the White River, & began to follow one of its branches, a narrower, but still rougher & more precipitous stream. Very soon we were conscious

+

Having entered a nobler & more solemn region than we had yet explored, & had expected to scale mountains which were to them to me an immense extent of prospect — but I found myself plunged into one of nature's deepest recesses. We ascended through a cleft, on both sides of which rose steeps, sometimes of a vast height, clothed with woods to their very tops. So profound a solitude I have never known. I seemed to feel as if I were cast into a world of immeasurable forests. So entire & absorbing is the impression which you receive from the heights & depths around you, any one of which has power to fill the eye & the mind by its masses & wreath of noble trees; that the scenes you have left are blotted out. You live for the time only in the present scene, which swells around you. The openings which are here & there made into the forests by large rocks or the rushing stream only seem to conduct your eye into interminable depths of foliage & shade. Above you, after you have been ascending perhaps a mile, tower mountain tops which seem to sink you into a valley,

Whilst you are conscious of having left the ordinary world ~~before~~ below you - this passage through the mountain gives you no particular scene which you wish to describe - Its power lies in the general, deep, and overpowering impression it makes - When we reached the highest point of the road, noble eminences still swelled around & above us, green to their very summits - The mists clung to them here & there so as to prevent our taking in their whole outline - although this gave us one beauty, it deprived us of what we should have prized more, the scene's splendour, which, as you can easily conceive, would not only have opened to us at last a more magnificent but during our ascent would have added new to the glory & now by the awful depth & gloom of the mountains - Such as I enjoyed & felt, I was answer, that I might have felt much more, that the full power of the scene was not exerted on me - & that I have an apology for visiting it again & that visit I will make, if I can, with my wife - We went that afternoon to Middleburgh about twenty miles from Hancock & thence I

sent you a letter - first as we approached it, we had a view of a fine ravine - which I cannot notice more particularly. Middlebury, I took a southern course on tuesday morning towards Glenn's falls, & lodged at Castleton about 28 miles. Near Castleton is a Lake called (Lake Bombasin) which wanted only the mountains of N. Hampshire around it to make it worthy a considerable place in my record. At sunset & for the evening the heavens were uncommonly glorious, a thunder cloud ~~filling one~~ frowning over the Northern sky, & the moon ruling the southern. For the first time I saw the sun himself bright face in the very centre of a dusky thunder cloud. To day (wednesday) we have travelled thirty two miles thro Granville a Fort ~~in~~ in New York to this place Sandy Hill, within three miles of Glenn's falls, weather cool, country sufficiently pleasant, became verdant - but for two days past, we have not travelled, as before, over enchanted ground, but have looked on the common face of nature & had time to get sober - Fare thee well -

Favs Eyebrooks

Sanay Hill N.H.
11 August 1823

Mrs William E Channing

Newport

Rhode Island.

(No 10) U

Lake George - Friday morng - Augt 10 - 1821 -

My dear wife -

It gives me some relief to find myself at a place which you have visited - for I shall save you & myself the trouble of much description - I have been travelling to pass through a country new to us both, without making you my companion, so far as letters could do it - & when I think of the length of some of my communications & their illegibleness, I should be ready to fear that my kindness had been somewhat burdensome; did I not remember that affection gives importance to trifles, & takes pleasure in spelling out even a scrawl than my own. I sent a letter yesterday from Sandy Hill - We left that place for this yesterday morning - visited Glens falls - which having seen with your own eyes you need not see through mine - The water was quite low - & in this respect my companions were disappointed - but on the other hand we saw more of the channel of solid rock through which the river precipitates itself, & I felt the want of nothing - I take it to tell you, what I have not whispered to my companions, that after visiting N Hampshire & Vermont, this beautiful Lake George has not

quite satisfied my expectations - I saw it twelve years ago, when its still & clear waters, encircled & protected by hills of a gentle slope & beautiful outline, seemed worthy of the Lady ones to which the bulrushes are said to have devoted their - It is still the retreat of peace, & beauty - but I have not found my former feelings revived in all their power - The only change which I see is, that many encroaching hand has hewed & there leveled the Lonours of the forest - & certainly do not blame him for thinking trees of grass better than green leaves - But this is not the secret of my feelings - I was this spot of paradise such before by bringing to it a mind unusually excited, perhaps enhanced, by a rapid succession of new & glorious scenes - After afternoon we began to look homeward - the pleasantest direction which the wide world offers - We go towards Whitehall, where we take steamboat perhaps to Burlington - which will show us some interesting shots on Lake Champlain - It is necessary for me to stop, breakfast being near & the mail closing at an early hour - I have just cast my eye on the Lake, & almost reproach myself for what I have said - I have written little of my companion, for it is not

were to commit characters to paper efficaciously where letters are thrown into obscene post-office — not that I have any fault to find. Few such pastures, as ours, united by such entire confidence, & engaging so uninterruptedly & innocently the scenes & works & gifts of God, can perhaps be found — But "my heart, untravelled" turns to my home — & hopes to return to you, really better —

Caldwell Mss
10 August

Mrs William E Channing

Newport

Rhode Island

(No 11) C

Whitehall - N Y - Aug[t] 11 - Sat[y] morning - 1821.

My dear wife - I have begun as you see my journey homeward, although not by a direct way - Yesterday afternoon I left Lake George - whence I wrote you - & travelled to Fort Ann by a cross road, which carried us in rear of the hills which rise at the southern end of the Lake, near Fort George - The country was wild, generally uncultivated, but sufficiently broken & diversified in surface to give our eyes & thoughts an agreeable action, & in particular, the hills, just referred to, offer you finer declivities than when viewed from the Lake - This morning we came to this place, distant about 27 miles from Lake G - & here we wait until 2 for the Lake Champlain Steamboat which will take us to Vergennes or Burlington as we please. We leave our carriage more willingly, because we wish to see something of the Shores of Champlain & of some interesting points by which the boat passes, & because we hear accounts of the road to Burlington not very encouraging - From Burlington, we shall plunge again into the society of streams & mountains - which I love better than ever - My journey thus far has benefited me in health as much as I expect -

ed, perhaps more, & has certainly given me more delight. The last is clear gain — for it was no part of my end or I thought of pleasure only as subsidiary to health — & such I have found it. The great benefit of the journey, has been, that my agreeable companions & a new & interesting country, have furnished me a supply of gratifications sufficient to abstract me from intellectual labour — this rest I needed — & I know nothing but such a journey which would have given it me in an equal degree. I trust, however, that I am in no danger of becoming dissipated in mind — I am sometimes almost impatient of the life I lead, & regret that so much of my earthly existence is spent so uselessly to my fellow beings, — If I may be restored to you & my active duties, I ask no more of good than there will give — I am almost ashamed to have passed through so much country without gaining more of what is called knowledge — But I shall return a little of a geologist, botanist, statistician (if there be such a word) as when I left you — I can publish no tour, like one I have met on the road, telling the world what stones I saw here, & what feats deeds were performed there — & in extenuation of this offence, I have to plead first, that

knowledge requires toil, & thus I wanted to escape
& secondly (which to my shame is the truest reason) I
have preferred communing with hills, lakes, woods
& three fair faces to ~~the~~ catechising my land-
lords, & the walls, & roads, & reading what oth-
ers have written about my routes. I shall re-
turn without much addition to my positive
knowledge — but I hope a stirring has been
given to my faculties worth a good deal
more — Then at least is the way in which
we dreamers consider ourselves for contemning
plain matter of fact — Not that I think the
latter unworthy of attention, where the body
& mind are equal to the task of gathering
it without neglecting something better — the
who can at once lay all things around
him under contribution & join physical with
moral & imaginative acquisitions, is entitled to a higher rank
than we narrower, & as he would say, shal-
lower mortals — I can only admire without
striving to imitate him —

Barbaston — Sunday evening ~~afternoon~~. Augt 12 — Yesterday at
2^P^M we took the steamboat — & you see whether it
brought us — On the whole our water expedition was
very pleasant, though not unmixed with evil.
The carelessness of our engineer once plunged us
into a muddy shallow where we detained half

an hour, & then ran us against the trees on the bank. Indeed the Lake at Whitehall is a narrow muddy stream, turning so suddenly as to tax the powers of the engineer unusually. I had heard nothing of this passage, so that its beauties came on me with the benefits of surprise - The stream & Lake called muddy - but its banks are very interesting, here rising in precipitous rocky cliffs & there in more sloping & well wooded hills, & offering you in quick successions fine windings & points which the rapid motion of the boat makes very amusing. For a time, every moment brought you some new view. We passed Ticonderoga a venerable antiquity, crowded with historical recollections, which [illegible] fine sunset - [illegible] once ornamented both Lake [illegible] now a [illegible] Before we reached Crown Point, the shades of night, as I like, all such work well done, the shades of a cloudy night had fallen upon us - & the moonlight gave us only an indistinct view of the banks - We reached Burlington after 2 at night - & how do you. Went & spent the rest of the night - We had taken our coach on board - & to this & retreated with our curtains open - & so

much was the case, that I did not feel myself as much exposed as I should have been in the cabin. Before we reached the wharf, which is a little distance from the village, it began to rain, a thing incident at so late an hour was not very promising to an invalid - But to day, I have suffered only from a slight cold & languor, which have yielded to rest & — good weather. This the day, I shut myself at - but towards sun-set, I took a short walk to view the Lake from a neighbouring ascent - I forget, whether ever visited that spot - If so, you will recollect it, one of our most pleasant villages. Beyond the quiet Lake, my eye ranged with great delight over the hills & mountains which bound the western prospect, & which, whilst they shelve alone in ridges nearly parallel, are yet so diversified in height & outline as to give you an impression of picturesque confusion as well as of considerable grandeur - But the best remains to be told. Here I received a letter from you. (N° 4) which lightened my heart of

a weight — although I grieved to hear of mother's
indisposition — Do write over her, & give my love
to her, & your mother. To morrow morning, I shall re-
turn my return being Christ-mas — Farewell —
& do very well —

Yrs

Mrs William C. Channing
Newport
Rhode Island

BURLINGTON
VERMONT

C Vt.

(No 12)

Waterbury. on Onion river. 26 miles from Burlington.
monday eveg – Augt 13 1821

My dear Wife. I left a letter at Burlington for you this morning, bringing down my journey to that date. We all felt that the accounts we had received of that pleasant village were not exaggerated, & paid it the compliment of resting again the banks of its lake & riding through its principal streets before we started. We were much pleased with the style in which their smaller houses are often built, which may be called the cottage style, going one story only in front & two in the ends, & such are the proportion & neatness, that the cheap edifice especially when shaded by the remarkably fine locusts which abound here & connected with gardens, produces a much greater effect than very costly buildings in Boston. I have spoken of the locusts – I never saw them so luxuriant, though not high – & they remind me of another thing – I have seen the roads in this state occasionally lined with the arbor vitae, sometimes alone, sometimes mixed with the hemlock – & you can conceive the beauty of this hedge – But now for the day's journey, – We did not strike Onion River until we had passed the over 8 or 10 uninteresting miles from Burlington – & our first view of the stream was not encouraging. I suppose it had been low

tured & polluted by some manufactories, for it was turbid & moved slowly, & I could not help contrasting it with its spotless, eloquent, clear-bosomed brother, the White river - But I soon found that I enjoyed it - As I ascended the stream (for its mouth is near Burlington) it grew purer, & moved with a more cheerful step, & at every turn disclosed some new beauties - not that it equals the White river - It is narrower, less remarkable for transparency, has fewer rapids, wears a more quiet & uniform aspect, is content to flow in a shorter course, & whispers & gurgles instead of sending a joyful murmur through the forests - But it is still interesting. Though generally calm, it has its seasons of exhilaration, & rushes over shallows, & shows a surface broken by stones, & gives out a note which runs into variety - It often winds through rich fields, on which the reapers seem to delay binding sheaves of grain, which seemed to my inexperienced eye a very abundant crop - It differs too from the hurrying, negligent White river, in the care with which it adorns its banks with trees & shrubbery, which were often of exquisite beauty & freshness, & sometimes, when connected with mild scenery,

~~twoled & softened [illegible], like the expression of [illegible]~~
~~countenance in a moment of [illegible]~~ - But the glory
of this stream remains to be named. The hills & moun-
tains rising from its banks are often magnificent not in-
deed as lofty as those we saw in N Hampshire -
but those were generally distant, whilst these were
near us, separated only by this ~~[illegible]~~ stream. I have
grasped through no heights so fine. On my former
route over the Green mountains, instead of riding
in view of them, I plunged into the midst of them, as
I told you, & was lost in an ocean of forests. On Onion river,
you scale no mountains, but ride through a winding
vale which the sagacious steam has discovered, & the
heights swell around you, ridge beyond ridge, like
successive surges - As we kept the North of the
River, the primitive mountains, which are on the
southern bank, were thrown enough into shade even at
noon to give us variety & contrast of light, &
now we were [illegible] struck & delighted with
the dark cedar which mixed with the bright-
er foliage of other trees, & sometimes crowned on
the summit, over woods which were rejoicing in the
full splendour of the sun - We observed on the morn-
ing a noble mountain, which had a singular swell

on its fold too, & we learned on enquiry that it was called the Camels rump - a most unlucky name for a reader, though to a spectator it has no power to demask the majesty of the peak which the taste of the vulgar has associated it. Before dinner, we had a fine view of the mountain through two ranges of hills, which seemed designed to serve as a vista to this glorious termination of the prospect - We dined at a town called Bolton, where it was lost to us behind a high hill which rose immediately in front of the house - This tavern was a resting place worthy of the scenes thro which we had passed - It stood on the brink of the stream & the sign board hanging from an elm under which we sat, & the hill to which it leaned rising immediately from the other shore of the river with a variety of surface & foliage & light which not often surpassed - We expected nothing better; but after dinner, as we proceeded, the hills swelled into bolder forms, & towered one above another, until we came to a place, where behind three or four ranges, we saw the "Camels rump" raising his bold castellar head, calm, solemn, majestick, like the monarch of

of the White river, removing to a sufficient distance the mountains from which it separated us, to enable us to see distinctly, their declivities & forests. In our former passage we left our carriage from necessity - here from choice - & we walked perhaps a mile through this deep valley, letting our astonished eyes to the towering & fantastic summits which seemed worthy of the region they inhabited. Imagine to yourself a succession of mountains thrown more than a mile's extent, rising at a steep & rocky ascent perpendicularly from their bases, sometimes stretching before us in a line, sometimes forming a majestic sweep, opening as we advanced so as to discover their outlines & distinct masses, & clothed to the very top with the freshest, richest, most luxuriant foliage. You were astonished to see such perpendicular heights, on which you might suppose that trees could not easily take root, so closely wooded, that the eye could not discover a speck, of dark earth amidst their boundless verdure. To say that the wood was grass would give you no idea of them - They had the brightness & tenderness of spring, with the fulness & strength of summer - & instead of giving you a confused map of verdure, these trees were remarkably distinct, & you could see the grace & majesty of particular trees - The light & temperature both

a mighty empire. I never suddenly reached a grander sight
a magnificent sweep of woods & mountains. To have just
ascertained that the Camels must be 4188 feet above
tide water is a height which of itself would fill the mind;
when
but on such a scene as this, encircled with such lofty
mountains, which instead of hideous, seem decked to gladly
at
be Lovers, & by contrast to magnify & exalt
& where when your eye is strained with gazing on
its solemn tops, you are repelled by almost
on its declivities, & a pack full, lovely stream
of rich foliage at its foot, & lay in such a scene, it has never
crossed the thoughts which I cannot easily describe, did
wing through such a country I received a most comfort-
able inn in this place, where I write, & where I now
am about to seek sleep — peace be with you —

Wednesday evening. I have crossed Vermont, & White mount-
Since monday evening when the preceding was written
& have seen much which I wish to write — but the
oppressive heat of the day has left me little energy —
On Tuesday morning, we began to follow a fine
clear river, which wound among hills less bold than
those we had seen the day before — but scarcely less
fine the early light of the morning they unveiled
continually as we
to us, until we reached a spot which had power
to efface for a time all impressions but its own

Nobody had whispered to us, that we were to meet any thing extraordinary - You will judge then of our astonishment & delight, when after hearing for a few moments an unusual tumult, we found ourselves on a bridge, which discovered to us, on both sides, a deep, rocky, precipitous ravine. Thro which the river, contracted to a few yards, was rushing, raging, foaming, as if it had reserved all its might & fierceness for this single spot. The ravine or cleft seemed to me a quarter or scarce of a mile in length, & so straight that from two or three points you could command nearly its whole extent. The cliffs rose literally in a perpendicular, to the height, I should think, of forty, fifty, sixty feet. in parallel lines of solid rock. That so remarkable a rapid should not even have been named to us, was matter of wonder, & proved how little impression is made by the mighty works of God. We clambered to their highest point of the banks, & looked down the eddy stuck with an expression which had hardly been surpassed at Glenfalls. We then pursued our journey - & passed through Montpelier the seat of government, a village in a low situation, with little in its scenery or its publick buildings to fix it in the mind. Here we left the Connecticut river, & followed one of its branches, which meets rather sluggishly, & conducted us through hills

which by reflecting the heat & intercepting the rays gave us a pleasant shade at noon. After following this branch 8 miles, we came to its source at a remarkable spring, which sends out one stream north to Oneon river, & another south to the Mute river. The moment we entered on this last, we felt that we had met an old companion. We were struck at once with the transparency & the rapid joyful motion, which mark the river to which this infant stream was becoming a tributary. Here too the whole scenery began to change, & we soon found ourselves entering a region which drew from us exclamations of increasing delight & admiration. We had heard that the road, through which our road lay, was called the gulph, & that we were to pass through many which is eminently called the Great mountains, not by scaling them as before, but by threading a valley at their feet. Still so little was said, that we expected little. How can I express our feelings, when the truth & glory of this spot were revealed to us. Instead of ascending, as on our former route, a cleft long & steep cleft, hemmed in on each side by precipices of forests, we now followed a road of easy ascent & descent. On one side, the bank rose suddenly so that its height could not easily be seen: but on the other rushed the branch

of the White river, removing to a sufficient distance the mountains from which it separated us, to enable us to see distinctly, over deciduous forests. In our former passage we left our carriage from necessity, here from choice, & we walked perhaps a mile through this deep valley, lifting our astonished eyes to the towering & beautiful summits which seemed worthy of the regard they inspired. Sometimes ascending to gain a succession of mountains through more than a mile extent, rising, at a steep angle, almost perpendicularly from their bases, sometimes stretching before us in a line, sometimes forming a majestic sweep, opening as we advanced to us to discover their outlines & distinct masses, clothed to the very top with the freshest, richest, most luxuriant foliage. I was astonished to see such perpendicular heights, in which you might suppose that trees could not easily take root, so closely wooded, that the eye could not discover a speck, of dark earth amidst their boundless verdure. To say that the wood were green would give you no idea of them - They had the brightness, & tenderness of spring, with the fullness & strength of summer - & instead of giving you a confused map of verdure, they were remarkably distinct, & you could see the grace & majesty of particular trees - The light & temperature

favoured us, & we lingered a unwilling to take the last look - We slept last night at Randolph, about thirty eight miles from Waterbury. This morning we followed the branch of White River, until we struck that river at Royalton, where we found ourselves on the same road by which we formerly escaped the State - & after a short journey of 22 miles reached this place whence I formerly wrote you. White River delighted me as much as ever - but the surrounding scenery, as we viewed it at noon, under a burning sun, & after a long drought, had lost very much since we saw it - so dependent is the finest prospect on light & shade temperature & the atmosphere - To morrow morning we start for Windsor - thence down the Connecticut - thence home - Farewell -

X.

55½

Windsor Haughty

Wm. Ellery & Channing

Newport.

Rhode Island.

(No 13)

Bridgeborough – Sunday – Augt 19. 1821

My dear wife –

My last letter was put into the Weybridge post office, Thursday – it was dated from Sharon – & gave you an account of my movements to that place. On Thursday we went to Windsor to dinner – & to Charlestown to lodge. On friday we started away the day at Brattleboro' after a ride, travelled only twelve miles – & Saturday we determined to stop here; whereupon we took breakfast, & left Gary, instead of going two days with stages – I am now on a beaten road, where you have travelled, & I have no occasion for describing my progress – I have kept the days at Mr Gary's, & hope soon to receive that I may rise with the sun. The weather is so hot, that we travel as fast as we can before 11 o'clock when we stop for several hours – & I am sorry to tell you, that after a journey of so regular freedom from all suffering, I took cold last

week - which has ~~kept~~ thrown me back a little - but I am considerably relieved to-day - & hope to be well in a day or two - & I state it, only because I wish you to feel, that I keep back nothing as to my health - I was so happy as to find your letter (No 6) here giving me a good account of children &c - You say nothing of your-self - but I trust you will meet me not only with a smiling but healthy countenance - I shall go down the river, how far I know not, & we shall probably end our journey with the week - Do not fear that I may later desert you - & if it be for reasons on your part I can only rejoice that my journey though so pleasant, is to bear its end - & now to all its pleasantness - & ~~even~~ ~~there~~ ~~not~~ a secret & unfeeling ~~wish~~ - ~~even~~ there not a secret & unfeeling consciousness that it is soon to conduct me to my home - I should not be betrayed by such into a letter of eight pages & to avoid the danger if so it not ~~exists~~ I must ~~write~~ write a little, & only a fit of interest - So ~~have~~ fare well, my dearest dear worker -

[illegible]

1827

Mrs William E Channing.

Newport —

Rhode Island —